MORNING EDITION

Japan Times Advertiser

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81ST SESSION OF DIET OPENS THIS SATURDAY

Chiefs, Secretaries of Both Houses Are Named on Thursday Morning

SESSION SEEN IMPORTANT

Members of Body Visit Meiji, Yasukuni Shrines and Plaza Of Imperial Palace

The opening ceremony for the 81st ordinary session of the Imperial Diet will be held on Saturday, December 26, according to an announcement carried in the special edition of the Official Gazette which was issued shortly after the organization of the Diet on Thursday morning.

According to custom the opening ceremony will be held in the Chamber of the House of Peers with the members of both Houses attending. The House of Representatives will meet in plenary session on December 27.

Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo, in his capacity of War Minister, and Navy Minister Shigetaro Shimada will make reports on the war situation. Then the House is expected to pass resolutions of thanks to the Imperial Forces and of condolences to the fallen war heroes.

Two Reasons Given

Meanwhile, observers pointed out that the 81st Diet session is important for two reasons. In the first place, the bills before the Diet will all be essential to the successful conduct of the War of Greater East Asia which has developed into a long term struggle marked by decisive battles each day. In the second place, this is the first regular Diet session to be held since the founding of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, an organization embracing all members of the House of Representatives, and which was founded to enable the Diet to play its full part in the conduct of the Greater East Asia War.

The members of the House of Representatives visited the Meiji and Yasukuni Shrines and the plaza in front of the Imperial Palace before they met in the Chamber of the House to organize for the 81st session. The members gathered at the Meiji Shrine at 7 a.m.

Thirty minutes later they entered the worship hall where, led by Vice-Speaker Sakusaburo Uchigasaki of the House, they worshipped. Buses took the group to the Yasukuni Shrine. The members paid their respects to the fallen war heroes enshrined there. The members then went to the plaza in front of the Imperial Palace and shouted Banzai for His Majesty the Emperor.

Speaker Okada Presides

The members of the House of Representatives assembled in the Chamber of the House at 10:25 a.m. Speaker Tadahiko Okada of the House announced to the assemblage that the 81st session of the Imperial Diet had been convoked the same day. He introduced to the assembled members a new member, Tokuji Akama, who was returned in a recent by-election in the First Electoral District of Toyama Prefecture. Then he designated seats to be occupied by each member in the chamber.

Under Article 16 of the Regulations Governing the House of Representatives, the assembled members left to the Speaker the matter of dividing the members into sections.

At 11 a.m., after a rest lasting for about 30 minutes, the Secretary of the House named the Chiefs and Secretaries of the sections which had been elected from among the members. Then the Speaker announced to the assembly that the organization of the House had been completed He stated that the Government and the House of Peers would immediately be notified to that effect.

The assembly dispersed at 11:05 a.m. after the Speaker had told the members that they would be notified through the Official Gazette of

(Continued on Page 3)

NOTICE

Today being Taisho Tenno-Sai, a national holiday, there will be no evening edition of the Japan Times Advertiser.

President Wang Meets Toyama

To the humble home of a great Japanese patriot, octagenarian Mitsuru Toyama, went the great Chinese leader, President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of China, on Thursday to renew an old friendship, a close, intimate acquaintanceship which began many years ago when President Wang was an aspiring young student and Toyama a close personal friend of the late Dr. Sun Yat-sen.

WANG MAKES CALLS ON KONOYE, TOYAMA

Renews Acquaintance With Old And Fast Friends in Dramatic Meetings

President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of China renewed his acquaintance on Thursday with two old and close friends, Prince Fumimaro Konoye and the venerated octagenarian nationalist Mitsuru Toyama.

President Wang visited and inquired after former Premier Prince Fumimaro Konoye's health at 10:10 a.m. at the Imperial University Hospital, where Prince Konoye has been confined since the middle of October and is now fast recovering. Prince Konoye, formally dressed in Japanese clothes, received President Wang Ching-wei in the Board of Trustees' room on the second floor of the Yasuda Hall. A secretary of the Ministry of Greater East Asiatic Affairs and Vice-Foreign Minister Chou were the only other persons present at the meeting.

The meeting of the two men was highly impressive, inasmuch as giving his full assistance to Japan's majestic strides toward the reconstruction of Greater East Asia in face of the chaotic world situation and President Wang Ching-wei is at the head of the new born National Government both important factors in the making of the great world transformation which is now taking place.

Perceiving that cooperation with Japan offered the path for a new China, President Wang Ching-wei made his escape from Chungking and proclaimed his peaceful salvation of China on December 22, 1938. At the same time Prince Konoye issued the "Konoye Statement" outlining the ideals of Greater East Asia construction and exhorting peaceful cooperation.

Recalling the past, President Wang reiterated the National Government's determination to share Japan's fate. The visit lasted for thirty minutes in an atmosphere of friendly intimacy.

Visits Toyama's Home

President Wang Ching-wei called on Mitsuru Toyama at his residence in Tokiwamatsucho, Shibuya-ku, at 3 p.m. on Thursday.

At the entrance of his house, in front of which the Japanese and Chinese national flags were displayed, aged Mr. Toyama, in Japanese ceremonial dress, greeted President Wang. The distinguished visitor was ushered into the large drawing room on the first floor of the newly built house. As the host and guest were conversing, they were joined by Mr. Toyama's children and their wives.

President Wang left Mr. Toyama's residence shortly after 4 pm.

Earlier in the afternoon President Wang visited Baron Kiichiro Hiranuma, former Premier, at his residence in Nishiokubo, Yodobashi-ku.

President Wang Ching-wei and his suite were guests at a dinner held

(Continued on Page 3)

Ambassador Yoshizawa Gives Luncheon Party For Governor of F.I.C.

Domei

SAIGON, December 24.—Kenkichi Yoshizawa, Japanese Ambassador to French Indo-China, at noon today gave a luncheon in honor of Vice-Admiral Jean Decoux, Governor-General of French Indo-China, at the official residence of Shigenori Tashiro, Japanese Minister here. In the course of the luncheon, the Japanese Ambassador and the Governor-General exchanged frank opinions on measures for further cementing friendly relations between Japan and French Indo-China. Ambassador Yoshizawa will leave here for Japan on December 26 to confer with the Japanese Government leaders.

PEARL HARBOR RAID LESSON TO U.S. NAVY

Time Magazine Says Admirals Learned Vital Role of Aircraft Carriers

The devastating and deadly effect with which the Japanese Navy Forces on December 8, 1941, annihilated the American Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor and how the debacle has taught a good lesson in modern naval warfare to the American naval leaders, who until that very moment, firmly held the idea that battleships were of paramount importance in a naval battle are highlights of the comment made by the American magazine Time in its issue of December 14 on the official report of the United States Navy Department on the Pearl Harbor catastrophe, according to a Buenos Aires dispatch to Domei. The comment is as follows:

"As Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox admits, the capital ship Arizona was sunk immediately following the start of the attack of Pearl Harbor by Japanese Forces. Another capital ship Oklahoma, which was similarly sunk, will be impossible to be refloated. More capital ships, the California, West Virginia and Nevada were either heavily damaged or sunk. The Pennsylvania, flagship of the American Pacific Fleet, as well as the Tennessee and Maryland were crippled, though temporarily. The damage done to the capital ships was the largest.

"Cruisers, too, could not escape the furious attack of the Japanese Forces. The Honolulu, Helena and Raleigh were smashed. In addition, an 8,100-ton repair ship and the new seaplane tender Curtiss, 8,625 tons, were also placed in the same predicament. Knox further reports that a mine layer, three destroyers and the target ship Utah also were sunk.

"Outstanding among damages done to the United States navy in the present official announcement was the fact that out of 202 naval planes at Oahu 80 were shot down

(Continued on Page 3)

HORI RAPS LEADERS OF U.S. AND BRITAIN

Avers Their Hypocrisy Is Reason for 'Grim Christmas' In World This Year

Declaring that Christmas this year is a "grim Christmas; not a merry Christmas," Tomokazu Hori, Spokesman of the Board of Information, in a comment made on Christmas Eve, Thursday night, said that only by eliminating the selfish American and British ambition of world domination can the Christian people of the world celebrate a "truly merry Christmas."

His comment follows.

"Christians throughout the world are commemorating the day of the birth of Jesus Christ. Christmas this year, however, is a different Christmas, not in its essence perhaps, but in its manner of observance.

"Many fathers, sons, husbands and brothers are not at home this Christmas to be with mothers, daughters, wives and sisters in a united family observance of this memorable day in the Christian world. They are far away, fighting in deserts, mountains, jungles, on the sea and in the air, many lost forever and resisting in eternal sleep in foreign battlefields. It is a grim Christmas; not a merry Christmas. It is a Christmas faced with contradictions—a Christmas amid war and blind hatreds, not the Christmas of "peace on earth, good-will to men."

"It is hardly necessary to point out that these contradictions, these conditions of world strife, have been

(Continued on Page 3)

FALSE REPORTS ON U.S. LOSSES BARED BY MAAS

Congressman Flays Roosevelt, Knox for Concealing Truth From Public

REVEALS PACIFIC DEFEATS

Demands Creation of Committees in Congress to Control President's Conduct

Exclusive to the Japan Times Advertiser

LISBON, December 24.—Revealing in a startling radio address that the Roosevelt administration has been giving consistently false reports regarding the battles in the Pacific in order to cover up the seriousness of the American losses, Congressman Melvin Maas from Minnesota has provoked a near riot in Washington, according to a report received here.

The report revealed that Congressman Maas, who served as a naval officer for four months in the Pacific, further stated that he had tried in vain to have his report accepted by Secretary of Navy Frank Knox and President Roosevelt. He said that he had been refused admittance every time, for which reason he, as a member of Congress, now felt obliged to tell the American people the unvarnished truth over the radio.

He asserted that the public has been misled all along the line as to the true state of the military and naval operations in the Pacific, adding that unjustified, optimistic utterances have created the erroneous impression that all was well in the war with Japan. Maas pointed out that defeats and catastrophes suffered by the American armed forces have been announced as "successes" and "victories."

In view of the extremely serious losses of the American navy, he said, committees should be immediately created in the Senate and in the House of Representatives to control and investigate President Roosevelt's conduct of the war.

Maas warned, that if Japan should win decisively in the Pacific, which they are about to do, the United States could consider the war as good as lost.

Meanwhile, the magazine News Week reported that Congressman Maas' proposal for the establishment of war control committees in Congress is being strongly supported by the members of that body. The same publication called the combined battles off the Solomons a second Pearl Harbor.

Hata Ends Inspection

Domei

NANKING, December 24.—General Shunroku Hata, commander-in-chief of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in China, returned here yesterday from an extensive inspection tour of Shanghai, Ningpo and Hangchow areas, it was revealed today.

It was also disclosed that during his tour, the commander-in-chief gave important instructions to the officers and men under his command.

Today's Press Comments

Friday, December 25, 1942

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Translations of other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Japan Times Advertiser.)

Enemy Air Force in India

ASAHI—In recent days the air arm of the Imperial Army has been raiding Chittagong and other enemy air bases in northern India and been scoring great war results. And on the night of December 20, it raided the enemy stronghold of Calcutta, severely damaged its airfields and military establishments and sealed the fate of the enemy's furtive movements.

We pay our most sincere respects and express our deepest gratitude to the Imperial Forces for leading the war favorably by always being ahead of the enemy by good strategy and hard fighting.

The Imperial Forces' attacks on the enemy's bases are, of course, not aimed at the Indian people but at destroying the Anglo-American forces who scheme to counter-move against the Imperial Forces in Burma and who are causing inhuman hardships to the innocent people of Thailand and Burma. And that the objectives of attack are limited strictly to military establishments is apparent in the statement made by the press chief of the Army in the South. Just as the press chief said, our Army bore much disadvantage and held itself for a long time because it disliked to bring the flames of war upon the people of India. This shows the attitude of our Army and people who feel a strong sympathy for the Indian people who have been suffering for long years under British oppression.

The anti-British attitude of the Indian people has become more serious with the great suppression of this spring, and even Britain itself has secretly realized that its policy toward India is a failure. In suppressing the anti-British movement the British have imprisoned Gandhi, Nehru and other leaders, fired upon and gassed demonstrators, and have attempted to reach a compromise with imprisoned leaders.

However, Britain's planned scheme has failed completely. One of the reasons for that was that the attitude of the imprisoned leaders was not as soft and stupid as Britain

(Continued on Page 2)

GALLANT FIGHTING TOLD OF OUR DESTROYER UNIT IN LUNGA NIGHT BATTLE

Hongkong Pillars Crumbled Fast —Diplomat Relates Experiences

Imperial Units Captured All Strategic Points With Lightning Rapidity

Domei

HONGKONG, December 24.—The 101st Christmas since the British occupation of Hongkong, saw the Britishers hard pressed by the Imperial Japanese Forces, which landed a week before at the northeast point of the Island. All the hills constituting the backbone of the former British Crown Colony including Jardin Hill and Nicholson Hill already were in Japanese hands. At last the British troops were forced back into the city and the southern peninsula with their communications severed. The Japanese troops which advanced over the lowlands along the shore already had occupied the race tracks, and were threatening to storm the very center of the city.

Refugees Filled Hotels

The spacious halls of the Hongkong and Gloucester Hotels, where Christmas eve dancing parties were held every year, were crowded with refugees. Meanwhile the general populace already had spent 18 wakeful nights in the air-raid shelters. Fiercely bombed by the Imperial Japanese Air Forces, the batteries on the hill at the western extremity of the island were on fire, cinders falling down the side of the height. The Japanese artillery barrage caught the crude oil tanks, from which huge tongues of flame rose between clouds of black smoke.

Kowloon was completely occupied by the Japanese, and from an observatory on a hill a banner fastened to a balloon exhibited the message, "stop futile resistance."

On this day furious artillery fire was exchanged between the two sides and the Japanese shell fire was accurately concentrated upon the enemy artillery position centering around Victoria Peak. Repeated assaults by Japanese air squadrons were smashing up British military establishments, while causing great fires to break out on the brow of the hill.

British Firing Inaccurate

British anti-aircraft batteries, although considerably weakened, were still pock-marking the sky whenever air raids were conducted. British bombardment, however, was fast losing its accuracy. British shells which were fired out of range, commenced to fall into the city, killing innocent residents.

The British forces faintly were depending on General Yu Han-mou's forces to attack the Japanese rear, and a Chungking representative summoning reporters at the Hongkong Hotel announced that two divisions of General Yu's army successful crossed the British-Chinese border. British and Chinese papers enthusiastically printed a reported collision between the Japanese and Chungking troops along the northwest border, but the false report was totally ignored by everybody.

At 2:30 p.m., December 25, British military authorities announced "Reinforced Japanese Forces have commenced fresh attacks but British troops are guarding their positions. Street-fighting took place at Wantzu, while Japanese dive-bombing attacks and artillery bombardments have commenced again. But the people of Hongkong are confident that the Japanese cannot win by bombardment alone."

On the same day the Japanese Forces were said to launch their general offensive and the British forces, which boasted that the Japanese could not achieve victory by bombardment alone, already were crumbling. By the afternoon hardly a British shot was heard and disheartened British troops along the Wantzu front were surrendering in increasing numbers. In the northern section, the British battalion commander who surrendered with his men was seen at the Japanese headquarters.

At last, at 4 p.m. a British car, flying a flag of truce, arrived at the Japanese front lines at Wantzu. As the Japanese refused to deal with

(Continued on Page 3)

Interned Nipponese Awaited Day of Deliverance With Inherent Fortitude

Domei

PEKING, December 24.—On the eve of the first anniversary of the fall of Hongkong, Consul Shiroshichi Kimura, member of the Japanese Consulate-General on the island fortress at the time of the memorable battle, (present member of the local Japanese Consulate-General) recalled with deep emotion that day a year ago when the proud Union Jack was replaced by the Rising Sun Flag in Hongkong.

"It was at 7:20 a.m. on December 8 when the shrill ring of the telephone bell awoke me. As I looked toward Kowloon across the channel, I saw the Kaitak airfield covered by a dim ashen mist," Consul Kimura related.

"That dim luster was a little different from the glow of daybreak. I began to feel an indescribable anxiety.

Informed of War Outbreak

"Soon a friend in the Yokohama Specie Bank transmitted to the radio broadcast proclaiming that war had broken out between our country and Britain and the United States.

"My feeling at that time was that what should come had at last come," said the Japanese Consul.

"The faces of all were cheerfully bright," continued Consul Kimura as he recalled the attitude of Japanese nationals who had been assembled in the Consulate-General building by the British police.

Soon after he had been interned, Consul Kimura said he negotiated with the British officials to be allowed to visit the Stanley prison where 22 employees of the Japanese Consulate-General and 22 remaining Japanese nationals had been interned.

Given permission to visit the prison on the fourth day, December 12, the Consul said, he called on the imprisoned nationals together with Consul General Yano and Chancellor Kawano.

"Consul General Yano encouraged the interned nationals, saying, 'It won't be long. The day of deliverance is near!'" Consul Kimura recalled.

Encouraging News

Consul Kimura said, he whispered into the ears of Mr. Terayama, branch manager of the Bank of Taiwan, that the Japanese troops were already in Kowloon across the channel. Describing Mr. Terayama's reaction, Consul Kimura said, "It seemed that the cheeks of Mr. Terayama suddenly flushed with excitement. But we could not stay long, and so requesting the prison guards to deliver some whiskey I had brought with me for the inmates and further requesting them to change the bread meals to rice meals, we returned to our Consulate-General."

Here, the Consul interrupted his narrative by adding he later learned that the whiskey had not been delivered until only a short time before the British surrender and that the rice meals were not given at all.

During his internment, the Consul said that he had been given English papers, and so knew about the sinking of the Prince of Wales and Repulse but knew nothing about the brilliant Japanese achievements at Pearl Harbor until after his deliverance by the Japanese troops.

Ships Set Ablaze

"My memories of that time are endless in number but especially vivid in my mind today is the scene of the numerous ships in the harbor which burned brilliantly after having been voluntarily set aflame by the British," continued the Consul.

"The flames which lighted the nocturnal sky appeared truly like an appropriate representation of the last days of the British Empire."

One mobilized British police officer told him, said Consul Kimura, "That the fact we could not counter-attack even once in spite of all our superior airplanes must be called

(Continued on Page 3)

Chief of Certain Man-Of-War Relates Details to Scribe

CHARGED INTO FOE

1 Enemy Battleship, One Cruiser Among Warships Sunk In Historic Encounter

By NOBORU AWANO
Member of the Navy Press Corps

ON BOARD X X WARSHIP—In a certain bay as clear as a mirror lies a few warships. Where is the might of the invincible Japanese fleet in these men-of-war of subdued hues? They are no other than the destroyers of a certain destroyer squadron which in the Night Battle off Lunga scored remarkable results that will stand prominently in the history of world naval warfare. That battle was the greatest gift of the Imperial Navy to the Japanese nation when the first anniversary of the War of Greater East Asia was approaching.

On November 30 a certain destroyer squadron carried fire and death right into the middle of an overwhelmingly large enemy fleet consisting of battleships, cruisers and destroyers. The result was so astounding that our small torpedo squadron sank one battleship, one cruiser and two destroyers and heavily damaged two destroyers. That a torpedo squadron sank a battleship has only one precedent, in which a Japanese torpedo squadron attacked China's grand fleet at Weihaiwei during the Sino-Japanese War and sank one or two enemy battleships. The Night Battle off Lunga is all the more outstanding in that the Japanese torpedo squadron dashed itself against the enemy who knew well that the Japanese would surely attack them and naturally were making necessary preparations against it. In this point the exploits of the destroyer squadron cannot be too much praised. Such brilliant war results are beyond common understanding.

The deadly blow has dealt a stunning blow to the American navy and people, who were planning to revenge a series of their defeats upon Japan in the Night Battle off Lunga. Their disappointment can well be imagined. How severe the night battle was can be visualised from the statement made by a certain commander when he visited a flagship of a certain squadron, and exclaimed, "What a severe battle it was!"

Hard Fighting Destroyer

We must tender our special gratitude in connection with the Night Battle off Lunga to a certain destroyer for its hard fighting. Steaming ahead of all, that destroyer discovered the enemy warships and, when the enemy opened gunfire, it discharged one torpedo after another, setting four enemy destroyers ablaze. Two of the enemy destroyers were sunk later. This gallant feat led the night battle to advantage to the Japanese destroyer squadron. The gallant fighting destroyer, however, was eventually sunk. Its thrilling fighting has no precedent.

I will write down the account of the Night Battle off Lunga, as I learned it from a certain chief of a certain warship which played a very signal part in it.

"A certain destroyer squadron started to sally forth calmly at a certain hour on November 29. After steaming for certain hours our squadron discovered a dark speck of an airplane in the distant clouds. It was an enemy flying fortress. All men took up their respective positions. The destroyers quickened their speedy. The enemy plane then disappeared, as our planes started their patrol flying. During certain months we had gone through a really hard training, far severer than what is known by the traditional weekly training of the Japanese Navy men as Monday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Friday. Our commander, except for the brief time of meal hours, was ever directing us on the bridge. We hardly slept more than three hours.

"A wireless message informing us that there were 12 enemy warships and some transports off Lunga was received. The enemy fleet appar-

(Continued on Page 2)

MARSEILLES, TOULON VITAL FRENCH PORTS

Important Naval Bases on Mediterranean Coast Frustrate Anti-Axis Schemes

France's Mediterranean coast which stretches from the Spanish frontier in the west to the Italian frontier in the east is divided into two essentially different parts; a typical flat coast in the west, the coast of Languedoc, which encircles the gulf of Lyon, and a steep rocky coast in the east, that of the Provence. The two parts are separated by the Rhone which through an intricate delta pushes its way into the sea.

The coast of Languedoc almost entirely consists of low dunes that are only interrupted at certain points by rocky promontories, which in earlier times were islands, lying in front of the coast. Behind these narrow dunes are numerous broad shallow lagoons, formerly parts of the sea. Owing to the alluvial deposits of different rivers, the coast that was formerly rich in ports has been converted into a country, closed in by the sea. In the Middle Ages the towns of Arles, Aigues Mortes, Montpellier and above all Narbonne were flourishing harbors, the ports of which are filled with sand today.

The only harbors, today existing on this part of the coast are those of Port Vendres, Sete and St. Louis du Rhone of which the well protected harbor of Vendres is accessible to war ships of all kinds, with the exception of heavy battleships. Sete is accessible to ships up to the size of heavy cruisers, while St. Louis du Rhone is only accessible to destroyers. There are no docks and repair works worth mentioning in any of the three harbors, but facilities for supplying ships with coal and oil. Vendres and Sete have maritime fortifications. At St. Louis du Rhone the Rhone canal to the sea begins which is navigable for ships with a draught up to six meters.

Canal du Midi

The Canal du Midi connects the Gironde with the Mediterranean which it reaches below Narbonne. It is only navigable for ships with flat draughts as the work of improvement that was planned after the first world war was not carried out. Owing to the shallowness of the water and to the heavy breakers the coast of Languedoc is dangerous for shipping and landings can only be undertaken to a limited degree.

The short part in the extreme west, formed by a spur of the Pyrenees forms an exception with the natural harbor of Vendres that is partly surrounded by high cliffs. The connection of this port with the hinterland, however, is difficult owing to its mountainous character.

The coast of Provence is entirely different from that of Languedoc. It is steep with considerable depths, extending far inland, and with a number of semi-circular bays separated from each other by cliffs. On this coast are a number of good ports, already famous in antiquity, the most important of which is Marseilles. This harbor is very favorably situated in the vicinity of the Rhone delta so that this river can be used as a traffic route. The excellent port that is protected against wind by islands, has been enlarged by a mole, five kilometers long, behind which a number of spacious basins with contrivances for the unloading of various kinds of goods are situated. Seven docks, the longest of which measures 205 meters and is 25 meters broad and 9 meters deep and first class docks for the building and repair of ships and machines and likewise the possibility of supplying ships with coal, oil and food and every kind of material have made Marseilles the most important harbor in the western Mediterranean and the first seaport of France. Gigantic extensions guarantee its future position. A tunnel-like canal, totaling seven kilometers, connects the harbor with the Rhone and permits of freighters up to 1,500 tons going up the river.

Apart from its importance as a commercial port Marseille can be used as a basis and a strong point for a large fleet. As a port of disembarkation for troops coming from and bound for Africa it has been repeatedly used. The coastal fortifications equipped with heavy guns in the vicinity of the harbor and on the islands enhance its military value.

Important Naval Base

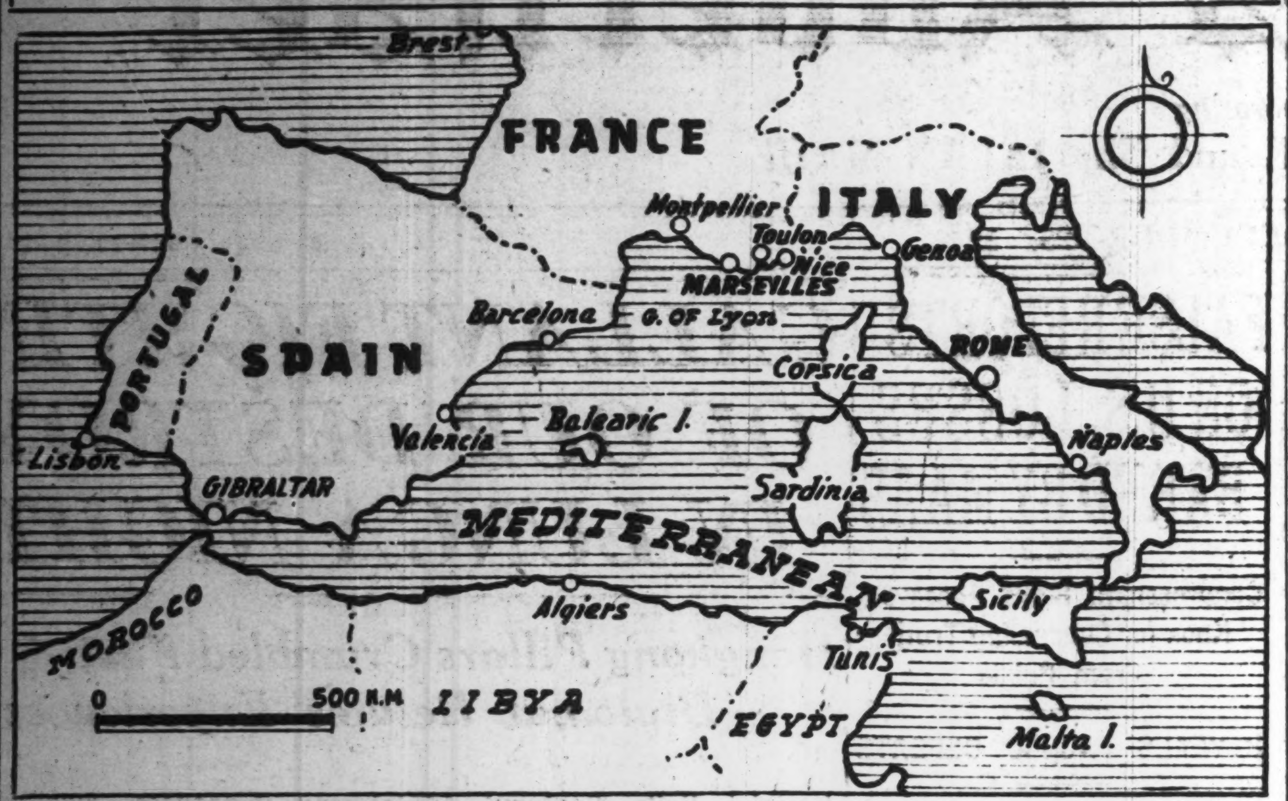
East of Marseilles, as the crow flies approximately 50 kilometers distant at the spur of the Alpes maritimes, lies Toulon which after Brest is the most important naval base of the country. The harbor is formed by a deep, secure bay with various side-bays and is nearly entirely closed off from the sea by fortified peninsulas. The actual naval port is situated on the northern side of the inner roadstead. The inner and outer roadsteads, thanks to the fact that they cannot be seen from the sea, and that their size offers large fleets adequate space and a safe anchorage, make Toulon a first-class naval port. A dockyard for all manners of new constructions and repairs of heavy type ships, 11 docks, the largest of which is 440 meters long, 36 meters broad and 12 meters deep, large coal and oil tanks with pipelines to the different quays, munition and mine depots, a special submarine-dock, rich stocks of food supplies and material for the equipment of ships and a modern naval hospital make Toulon an exceedingly valuable base.

The spacious bay of Hyeres situated to the east of Toulon and protected by several islands is used by the French Mediterranean fleet for shooting practice and as a general training ground and also provides large ships with good anchorage.

The rest of the coastal section that stretches to the Italian frontier consists of a number of bays with good anchorage, the use of which depends on the direction of the winds, particularly on the much feared mistral. The bays of St. Tropez, Frejus and the bay of Villefranche in the vicinity of Nice must also be mentioned. The harbors in these bays are small and with the exception of Ville-franche they have neither docks nor possibilities for repair and equipment and can only be used as naval ports to a moderate extent. A railway line on the coast connects those places with one another and with Toulon. A good auto road serves the same purpose. While small harbors may serve as refuges for small ships they are not suited as ports of disembarkation for large masses of troops.

Marseilles and Toulon offer a defender the best chances of preventing the enemy from gaining ground. Owing to the advance of the Axis powers to the French Mediterranean coast the hopes of the Anti-Axis forces of taking the coast by surprise have been frustrated.

French Mediterranean Coast



Above map shows the strategic positions occupied by Marseilles and Toulon, on the Mediterranean coast of France. Favorably situated in the vicinity of the Rhone delta, Marseilles is the most important harbor in the western Mediterranean and the first seaport of France. As for Toulon harbor, it is formed by a deep, secure bay with various side-bays and is nearly entirely closed off from the sea by fortified peninsulas.

Chungking Policy Proved Suicidal By Lin Pai-Sheng in Radio Speech

Heartfelt Sympathy Extended to Misguided Chinese Masses Still Under Tottering Chiang Regime By Nanking Publicity Minister

Strongly pointing out the futility of Chungking's feeble resistance against Japan, and sincerely expressing condolences to the Chinese masses still under the control of the arch-renegade Chiang Kai-shek, Lin Pai-sheng, Publicity Minister of the Nanking Government, broadcast a speech on the subject Chungking and the War on December 10 in order to clarify once again the lofty ideals of Nippon and the iron determination of the National Government to cooperate with its Ally to the fullest extent in the establishment of a New Order in East Asia.

The text of Minister Lin's speech, supplied through the courtesy of the Press Bureau of the International Publicity Board of Nanking, follows:

Two days ago, December 8, the War of Greater East Asia entered its second year. We are filled with mixed feelings as we think of the heroic sacrifices made by the brave soldiers of our friendly Ally in the sacred mission for the defense of East Asia, and of the efforts exerted by our own compatriots and the peoples of other East Asiatic nations in rendering every assistance in the prosecution of the War and in sharing all comforts and hardships for the achievement of ultimate victory.

As we think of the fact that the fate of East Asia hinges on this War, which provides the opportunity for the realization of the objective of the rejuvenation of China and the defense of East Asia, we cannot but review the past and look into the future, and offer our compatriots further words of encouragement, as well as express our sympathy for our compatriots still under the control of Chungking.

Explains War Origin

Why did the War of Greater East Asia break out? As our Supreme Leader explained, the War is the natural outcome of the exigencies of the ever-changing world situation. From the general standpoint, the War is a final struggle between forces working for the construction of a New Order and those attempting to maintain the Old Order. From the standpoint of the peoples of East Asia, the War represents the efforts of all the oppressed East Asiatic peoples againt aggression and for emancipation. From China's standpoint, the War is an important stage in the progress of the reorientated course of the People's Revolution in its march towards the ideal of Pan-Asianism. From the standpoint of Sino-Japanese relations, it is the final development following the awakening of the two peoples from the folly of internecine strife to the realization of the need for joint resistance against alien aggression.

Generally speaking, therefore, the War is the concrete expression of the desire for emancipation among the East Asiatic peoples, a desire brought about by the inter-action of world developments and the East Asiatic situation. Though initiated by Japan, the War is not merely an act of resistance undertaken by Japan alone. Before its outbreak, support for it was already provided for in the Japan-China Basic Treaty and the Japan-Manchoukuo-China Joint Declaration, while after its outbreak the National Government declared its determination to share comforts and hardships with its Ally, while other countries like Manchoukuo and Thailand also began to contribute to the prosecution of the War. This proves conclusively that the War of Greater East Asia is really a struggle for the whole of the East Asiatic peoples in their efforts for emancipation.

As far as China herself is concerned, for the past 60 years, the People's Revolutionary Movement and the Chinese people represented by this Movement have worked for the rejuvenation of China and the emancipation of East Asia, and for this continuous efforts have been directed against the Anglo-American imperialists, and the lives of countless martyrs sacrificed therein. That our work is still unaccomplished is due to many reasons. The greatest mistake, however, has been our deviation from the fixed course through the neglect of the importance of the principle of Pan-Asianism, so that before our alien enemies have been fully eliminated, internal dissension set in. With the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, however, objective developments have indicated to us the correct course to be followed in the work for the rejuvenation of East Asia. This is a point to be recognized by our compatriots who love their country, and who love East Asia, a faith to be upheld by every patriot who follows in the behests of the National Father.

Hits False Belief

But there are still those who do not fully appreciate the true import of the War of Greater East Asia. Some interpret it as a combat between the so-called Democracies and the Axis Powers an ambiguous statement by those who indulge in talking about the so-called "front." They think that even if Britain and the United States are fighting Japan not for the sake of China, the War will prove beneficial to the policy of prolonged resistance, and thereby bring nearer the realization of their cherished dream of ultimate victory which has actually been exploded.

Many unfortunate incidents have been brought into existence. With Chiang Kai-shek as their leader, misled elements have usurped control over a portion of the country's manpower and material resources, and constituted themselves, renegades of the East Asiatic cause and the Chinese People's Revolution. One group among them vainly believes that with the War of Greater East Asia, Britain and the United States would help them to defeat Japan, and accordingly they become all the more confirmed in their policy of reliance on the Anglo-American powers, and persist in their submission to the latter. The other group consider the War favorable to the development of Communism, and are prepared to sacrifice China in the interests of the Comintern.

They dream of ultimate victory with the remnant forces they possess and with the reinforcements of armament and material expected with the Anglo-American entry into the conflict. But a few days of the War were sufficient to shatter their hopes, as the heroic Japanese Forces began to score success after success. Unable to maintain their own bases, the Anglo-American imperialists could naturally no longer look after their vassal.

And so with the victories in the War of Greater East Asia scored by Japan, Anglo-American tyranny in this part of the world has been ended. But Chungking, unrepenting and conscienceless, would still accept the orders of the Anglo-Americans and under their direction undertake such measures as the so-called "general national mobilization" and the issue of "reconstruction lottery tickets." The so-called mobilization is an attempt to sacrifice the remnant manpower in the interests of the aggressors, while the lottery venture is an encouragement to gambling and therefore a means to raise funds for the purchase of more arms to kill our own compatriots. Moreover, in the process, the pockets of those in charge of the undertaking will be enriched and their deposits in Anglo-American banks swollen.

This is the truth about the so-called "Free China." The overlords in "Free China" are thus digging their own graves, and will share the fate of their Anglo-American masters. But the pity is that they should have so distorted the significance of the racial consciousness which has been aroused during the progress of the People's Revolutionary Movement led by the National Father. Real freedom for China is thus being sacrificed under the high-sounding pretense of "Free China," where the previous heritage handed down by the revolutionary martyrs is being abused.

Tragic Story Cited

I recall here a story from the pen of a well-known British journalist. According to this story, a Chungking soldier, who had been trained to worship everything Anglo-American, was so moved by the news of the War of Greater East Asia that he contributed the few dollars he had, representing the savings from his pay, to the British Hospital for wounded soldiers through the British Embassy, blindly believing that the British were fighting for China. When later news was received of the British reverses, of the base manner in which British retreats were being conducted, and further of the fact that Chinese life and property in former British colonies were being disregarded, and the Chungking forces who had helped them were being left in the lurch, the soldier began to realize his folly, and out of his hopelessness and anger, he committed suicide.

The story must be true as it came out of the pen of one who received subsidies from Chiang Kai-Shek. Countless must be the number of our compatriots, still living under the tyranny of Chungking, who have realized the mistake of their overlords and passed through similar experiences. It is incumbent on us to deliver them out of their predicament, and to come over to the path of enlightenment.

Since the inception of the Peace Movement, we have exerted our best to induce Chiang Kai-Shek to a realization of his folly. Especially since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, we have spared no efforts to bring our old comrades over to the path of righteousness. We have done our best and are now convinced of the fact that nothing can be expected any more from that handful of men who are placing self interests above those of the country, and whose only concern is only with their bank deposits and their personal welfare and that of their children. Their evil influence must one day be uprooted by the revolutionary masses under them when the cry for national unity reaches its climax. Then the forces for national rejuvenation and reconstruction and for the emancipation of East Asia will even be the more augmented.

Firmly believing that a united China must be realized so that she can share the responsibility faithfully for the defense of East Asia, we appeal to the people of the whole country to join forces, and bring about the early collapse of all reactionary elements. We ask of all our compatriots to work for the overthrow of the regime maintaining its usurped authority over a part of our land, and of the Communists who are attempting to fish in troubled waters, so that obstructions to the rejuvenation of China and the defense of East Asia may be removed. For such is our responsibility. As we look forward to the ultimate victory of the War, we shall march forward jointly with all the peoples of Greater East Asia.

GALLANT FIGHT IN LUNGA TOLD

(Continued from Page 1)

ently was waiting for an attack on the Japanese warships, well knowing the small number of our forces through reconnaissance. It must have been a capital opportunity for the enemy seek revenge upon the Japanese squadron. All right, go ahead. This determination flashed over us all. Heaven gave the Japanese Navy men a fine chance to demonstrate the fruits of their long training. An atmosphere of sure killing of the enemy pervaded. Our flagship looking like 'a sea wolf' darted straight toward the enemy. The sun set on the western horizon in a ball of fire.

"The broken waves glowed bluish-white, illuminated by twinkling noctilucas. The black-out was observed by the entire squadron.

"The place for which we were destined was near. Our tension increased visibly.

Weather Becomes Bad

"By this time the weather had become bad. While we came near to 'x x,' we were overtaken by a violent squall.

"There were reefs in plenty on the surface of the sea around us.

"Time flew swiftly. We must not delay.

"The flotilla whose course had been fixed was moving at full speed to the place in view. There was no moon. The flotilla sped on in darkness.

"At noon we were near Savo Island. There was no telling when the enemy would appear.

"The figures of enemy planes caught the eyes of the watch-man. There were four of them. They were flying very low. Red and blue marking lights were visible.

"The enemy was near at hand.

"We could see the enemy planes flying to the right and to the left in the vault spacely set with stars which were twinkling in snow.

"It was evident that the enemy vessels were drawing near to us.

"The visibility was as low as a few thousand meters. We realized the supreme importance of the mission of us who in a single vessel were leading the flotilla. If we delayed in discovering the enemy, woe to our flotilla.

"At x p.m. we came to the northern shore of Guadalcanal Island. Then we received information that enemy vessels had been sighted.

"The chief signal-man who had been looking hard through his field glasses shouted: 'I see a black thing at 40 degrees to the left.'

"I quickly produced my field glasses and the black sea. Nothing caught my eyes.

Enemy Sighted

"Presently the chief signal-man shouted: 'They seem to be enemy destroyers.'

"I looked, and observed a black thing here and there on the sea. They were enemy vessels.

"I counted. There were seven of them.

"I felt that there must be other vessels after the group.

"The enemy ships moved against us at a speed of 24 knots.

"Rapidly the distance intervening between us and the enemy ships decreased.

"Our vessel immediately signaled to the flagship.

"The commander of our ship issued the order 'Fight'.

"I saw the barrels of a number of guns on our vessel wheel to the left. They now were facing the enemy ships.

"By this time we were nearly at right angles to the enemy vessels.

"The chief gunner was heard shouting, 'All ready for firing.'

"Then I saw an orange light flash behind our vessel.

"Presently I heard a shell whizzing over us.

"There was another shell. Then still another.

"The order came 'Begin firing.'

"Our guns roared simultaneously.

"I saw the enemy vessels vibrate slightly.

Battle Starts

"We fired one volley after another. A night sea battle had started.

"I saw a red light far on the sea. The next moment it went out. Presently I saw in the dark a flare.

"The chief signal-man with his glasses in his hand turned to me and said: 'The second enemy ship has been hit for the first time.'

"I was profoundly moved by what he told me.

"The next moment I saw him fall on the bridge. He had been hit by a shell.

"I heard shells pass in front of where I stood with clenched teeth.

"In addition to shells, the enemy fired flare bombs and tracer bullets. When one of the flare bombs exploded over us, illuminating the sea round us for a moment, I said to myself that this was a glorious fighting place.

"Our flotilla did not seem to be aware of what was happening to us. In all probability the thought did not occur to the enemy that we were not alone and that we were leading a flotilla. The enemy concentrated fire on our ship.

"Shells were seen falling thickly into the sea around us, causing high spouts to rise.

"Presently the second enemy vessel was ablaze.

"The chief gunner ordered 'Be quick'.

"It was evident that he was sure that the first shell fired by our ship hit the enemy vessel. He saw no need of adjusting the aim.

"Further shells were fired. All of them found their marks."

"The glare of the flare bombs and the towering water spouts shut everything off from view and we shot at the enemy No. 2 and No. 5 ships whenever we could see the enemy fire through the glare and the columns of water shooting into the air. With the exchange of thundering gun fire now at its height our main force behind X X with the outline of Guadalcanal behind it was hidden from the enemy's view and we alone were enwrapped in the enemy's curtain of fire. Through all that our ship directed accurate and deadly gunfire at the enemy No. 3 and No. 4 ships.

Ship Is Hit

"At the start of the exchange of gunfire our ship had been hit; first in the torpedo room and then by a number of shots in the room. Movement had then become almost impossible. Our ship was fighting the enemy almost without moving. Seeing that, the enemy concentrated an amazing number of shells upon us. Steel shells of death ripped through the air as if connected to each other and dropped on us from all angles. First a turret was hit. The enemy shell went through the turret and blasted the gunners into nothingness. And First-Class Sailor K, the only survivor among the gunners of that turret, although his period on board was short and he did not know much about the gun's operation, worked the gun alone and managed to fire a last shot.

Then the No. X turret was hit. And the final turret was hit. And all our guns were silent. But suddenly the No. X turret began to move. The gunners all bloody and staggering were pushing it. One shot, two shots, with the final strength and spirit of the gunners the shells were directed toward the enemy. A pillar of blasting flame shot up from the enemy No. 5 ship. The enemy's fire became heavier than ever.

The number of our dead and wounded continued to increase. The captain who was standing only two feet from me received a direct hit in the chest and fell. And the next moment the sailor standing next to me was killed. At X X minutes torpedoes were released. The chief torpedo officer who had from the beginning been asking the captain for permission to shoot his torpedoes now crouched over the sights and put everything in readiness. A number of torpedoes were shot into the water toward the enemy, when through the shooting water spouts, the enemy was sighted.

Splashing into the water the torpedoes lashed toward the enemy through the agitated water. Suddenly with a terrific shock that rocked the whole ship a high-powered enemy shell hit the torpedo tubes. If they had been hit before they had shot their torpedoes our ship would have been sunk.

But look, our torpedoes have hit the enemy and a column of water is shooting up from the enemy. The chief torpedo officer has been hit seriously in the leg but he is shouting to his men that the torpedoes have found their mark and for them to buck up.

By this time X X enemy shells had hit our ship. Huge holes had been ripped open in every part of the ship and even a candle could not be lighted anywhere because this would be seen by the enemy. Our ship was not only full of holes, it seemed more as if various detached parts had been pieced together.

Ship Fights On

Steam shot out from the boilers and a terrific heat filled the ship. Tremendous explosions rocked the ship continuously. The whole ship roared; it was like pressing your ears to the rails and listening to an express rain running full speed. Like an unconquerable hero our ship still continued to float on the water covered by countless wounds. I will never be able to forget the spirit of the Navy manifested in that inexpressibly tremendous scene.

The gunnery officer came down to the bridge because all the guns had been demolished. A severely wounded sailor crawled toward him. The whole upper half of the sailor was as if he had been dipped in running blood. Almost in a whisper he asked, "Gunnery officer, have we hit the enemy Have we sunk the enemy?"

The gunnery officer pointed to the burning enemy saying, "Look at that. A big fire has broken out in the enemy and it is about to sink." The gunnery officer helped the sailor to stagger up so he could see the enemy. When the sailor saw that the enemy was burning he smiled slightly and saying, "That is good," died held in the arms of his superior.

"Another sailor gathered together his final strength to recite a poem and to shout a word of encouragement to his comrades. A petty officer carried to the doctor's room refused all treatment saying that he was beyond hope and requesting that others be treated first. That petty officer bore an excruciating pain before death finally released him from suffering.

"Thus through the hail of concentrated enemy fire our ship fired shots at the enemy and caused towering fires to break out in the enemy's No. 2, 3, 4, and 5 ships. How swift and accurate was our fire can be seen from that. The 4 enemy ships were burning like flaming torches.

"Then suddenly something came out in front of the flames. A large ship. The first ship cannot be anything else but a cruiser. But the ship behind it is a large ship such as we had not expected. It is a battleship. Our hearts begin to beat fast. Silhouetted clearly against the backdrop of flames the enemy battleship advances.

"Then our main fleet drives closely toward the enemy. The flagship of our fleet and the vessels under its command cut through the water toward the enemy. They approach closely and suddenly release torpedoes. Blinding flashes rip through the night. More and more torpedoes are released.

"It is a wonderful torpedo attack. It differs from the ordinary orthodox torpedo attack. It is an attack from the front from an extremely close distance. Has there ever been such an attack? This is jumping on the enemy and driving steel into his heart.

"With a flash and a thundering roar an enemy cruiser is blasted open and sinks immediately. Banzai!' We shout with our parched throats. Then a terrific explosion shakes the ocean. Flames several score times more than its height shoot up from the enemy battleship and within a few moments it is drawn below the surface of the sea. Just before the enemy battleship sinks a comrade ship approaches closely and flashes its searchlight upon it. The enemy in its death throes is a new type battleship with a notable frontal structure. It is a Washington-class battleship of 35,000 tons, carrying 16-inch guns.

Victory Is Won!

"We have sunk! Except for the enemy ships still burning the ocean is again covered by darkness. Through that pitch dark our ship is floating aimlessly. It is the ship X X whose captain has been killed in action and the greater part of whose crew has been killed or injured. All movement is now impossible and it is now in its last gasp. We would like to tell X X that it has fought well. This X X to which we are so attached is fated to last but a few more minutes.

"The command comes through at X o'clock to "abandon ship." Rafts are lowered. The dead are first placed on them. When the men attempt to next put on the severely wounded chief torpedo officer he insists that he is only slightly injured and demands that the severely injured be put on first.

"With all hands off the ship three Banzai for His Majesty the Emperor are given and following that for our ship the X X. With the Banzai resounding over the dark waters our ship is already listing 60 degrees. Around that time we hear a furious gunfire going on behind us. We look back and see the badly disorganized enemy firing at each other. It is pathetic.

"The commander and the chief torpedo officer and I stand on the forward deck and bade farewell to our ship the X X. Then we dive into the water. Those on the rafts and those in the water feel a sorrow at the parting and do not leave the ship's vicinity. It is dangerous to stay too near the sinking ship because we may be drawn under with it. But everyone wants to stay with it till the last. The ship sinks gradually. Through the darkness someone starts to sing 'Kimigayo.' It spreads and as if to sing praise to its glorious end its strains fill the dark night.

"Suddenly an enemy torpedo boat approaches. It advances close to the sinking X X and frightendly releases a torpedo and flees into the night. At the stern of the X X a spout of water about 100 meters high shoots into the air. Vibrations rip through the water around us. The X X has sunk. The X X which has fought the enemy alone, the X X which has served so meritoriously against the enemy has now gone to the bottom. It is a sorrowful moment.

"The singing of 'Kimigayo' surges forth more powerfully, more emotionally. Sent off by the voices and eyes of X hundred men the X X has finally gone to the bottom of the sea off Lunga.

"Telling the X X that we had succeeded in destroying the enemy and vowing to fight the War of Greater East Asia until complete victory we swim through the darkness around us."

Her Majesty Visits Mausoleum At Tama On Eve of Anniversary

On the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the demise of the Emperor Taisho, which falls today, Her Majesty the Empress accompanied by Her Imperial Majesty's suite on Thursday morning visited the Tama Mausoleum to pay respects to the spirit of the late Emperor, states Domei.

Today's Press Comments

(Continued From Page 1)

had imagined. The second reason is that, politically and technically, the anti-British movement has no room for compromise. By economic difficulties that movement is becoming stronger. It should be regarded as a racial determination for independence.

According to reports the economic difficulties of the Indian masses cannot be adequately expressed by mere words. The most outstanding reason for their present difficulties lies in Britain's policy toward India. Since the outbreak of the second European war Britain, to bolster its failing food supply has been using India's food supply, and on top of that it has forced India to supply part of the food supply for the British armies in West Asia and North Africa.

Thus as a naural result, the Indian famine arose, the people had nothing to eat and their difficulties became more serious.

This food supply policy of Britain toward India has come about because Britain could not help but take such a policy in its losing war and at the same time it is a manifestation of the British feeling of contempt and discrimination held toward the people of India. We cannot help but feel a deep sympathy for the Indian people who have been regarded by Britain merely as something to stand on and something to use and profit from.

HONGKONG CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARY OF FALL

Decorated Cars Run Through City—People Expressing Jubilance

Domei

HONGKONG, December 24.—Celebration of the anniversary of the fall of Hongkong tomorrow started this evening with gaily decorated cars running through the city amidst great jubilation among the million citizens.

Among other things, a photographic exhibition introducing Japan and the Southern Regions is attracting large crowds of people, consisting of Japanese, Chinese and foreign residents.

A solemn celebration for the first anniversary of the fall of Hongkong, memorial services for those who died in battles, fireworks, concerts, lecture meetings and other entertainments will be staged tomorrow and the following day.

TRADE RELATIONS DEVELOP

Domei

HSINKING, December 24.—As another concrete evidence of closer trade relations between Manchoukuo and countries in the Southern Regions, selected seeds of Manchurian soya beans were shipped to Thailand yesterday.

The soya bean seeds which were selected by experts of the National Agricultural Experimental Station at Kungchuling left here yesterday under the charge of a member of the Manchoukuo Legation in Bangkok.

NEW OVERSEAS BODY TO HELP INTERNEES

Words of Encouragement Uttered by Former Foreign Minister At Inaugural Ceremony

The inaugural ceremony of the committee for the relief, consolation, and encouragement of the overseas Japanese was held at the Dai Toa Kaikan on Thursday at noon, and attended by former Foreign Minister Hachiro Arita and some 80 other official and civilian dignitaries.

At the beginning of the ceremony the national group rites were solemnly observed by all the attendants. This was followed by an explanation of how the same committee came to be organized. Mr. Arita, upon being recommended as chairman of the committee, stood up and delivered the inaugural address, clarifying the objectives of the committee. He said:

"The overseas Japanese, particularly those who resided in America and Britain, were either interned or transferred to various places at the outset of the War of Greater East Asia. Thus, all their efforts of long years came to naught. The other Japanese residents in the countries affiliated with America and Britain are undergoing the same hardships as those in America and Britain. No words can sufficiently express our sympathy for those fellow countrymen. We, who are in Japan, are able to serve the State in her enormous task of construction as the result of the glorious victories scored by Japan.

"Since the first batch of Japanese emigrated to Hawaii in 1868, over 70 years ago, many went to North and South America and other southern regions as well as to Europe. They became pioneers of Japan's overseas development and spared no effort in realizing the spirit of 'Hakko Ichiu' in alien land.

"Their economical contribution to their homeland was not slight. In some countries they contributed a great deal to the development of industries, by cultivating waste land and transforming it into fertile land. Ignoring all the contributions of the Japanese, America and Britain treated the Japanese residents most inhumanly. Upholding humanitarianism as their slogan they acted quite to the contrary.

"Intercourse between Japan and enemy countries can only be carried out through the offices of the country representing Japan's interests, therefore it takes time to make arrangements with hostile nations. The mission of the committee is manifold, but the most urgent at present is to send the sincere sympathy of Japan's 100,000,000 to their fellow countrymen now interned in various enemy countries."

Following this encouraging address, the appointment of committee members took place. The ceremony was closed with an address by Minister Tadakazu Suzuki of the Foreign Office. All attendants then gathered at luncheon.

Pearl Harbor Raid, Lesson to U.S. Navy

(Continued From Page 1)

and 70 others were rendered unserviceable. Some army planes escaped damage, but, by the destruction of runways by Japanese planes, they were not able to fly. Out of 237 army planes, 97 were reduced to smithereens. No exact figure is given as to other damages.

"The casualties suffered by officers and men have been announced, but this was nothing but a more or less increase over the figures already announced. At any rate, more than 3,000 officers and men of the American navy and marines, who were most well trained, were either killed or are missing. The real extent of damage done to Pearl Harbor is far heavier than the rumors circulated in America during the past one year. The damage probably will be more serious than that estimated by Japanese military authorities.

"American admirals have expressed their opinions that they had known the might and value of aircraft carriers and cruisers attached to mobile units since a long time before the sad defeat at Pearl Harbor. Be that as it may, it is true the American navy alive to the bitter experience at Pearl Harbor has raised the value and usefulness of aircraft carriers, which used to be placed in a position of secondary importance in the fleet, and replaced battleships with carriers.

Air Arm Recognized

"Many American admirals might have known a 'new warfare order,' but, in spite of the terrible mess at Pearl Harbor, they were working under the belief that the battleships were the strongest weapon to defeat the enemy. Unavoidably, however, the subsequent development of the situation seems to have induced them to 'marry' the air forces.

"According to the Roberts Commission report, a certain lieutenant ignored a warning from an American unit at a point 180 miles away from Pearl Harbor, pointing out that the enemy planes were flying toward Hawaii. What astonished the Americans most, as a result of the sad defeat at Pearl Harbor, was America's unpreparedness for war. Today, Pearl Harbor has become the most thoroughly fortified zone in the world. The Arizona still lies sunk near Ford Island, while the Oklahoma and Utah are showing their ugly keels above the water. The destroyer Show, which was not worth more than 35 cents at that time, is expected to be transported and reconstructed somewhere in America."

Burma Commemorates War Anniversary

A rousing, stirring demonstration of Burma's living faith in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, in the vital work of building a new Burma, was seen when that country recently celebrated the smashing victories won in the first year of the current war. On the first anniversary of the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the entire Burmese people, from Chief Administrator Dr. U Ba Maung down to the humblest peasant, renewed their determination to fight on for the ideal of an Asia for the Asiatics. The pictures show the students of the Japanese language school parading through the streets of Rangoon, and Chief Administrator Dr. Ba Maung (lower photo) delivering a burning message to his people.

WANG MAKES CALLS ON KONOYE, TOYAMA

(Continued From Page 1)

under the joint sponsorship of the Foreign Minister and Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs at the Foreign Minister's official residence at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday.

President Wang and his suite numbering 11, including Dr. Chu Min-yi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Chou Fo-hai, Vice-President of the Executive Yuan and concurrently Minister of Finance, Mei Hsu-ping, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Lin Pai-sheng, Minister of Publicity, General Hsiao Chu-hsuan, Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, and others attended.

Dr. Hsu Liang, Chinese Ambassador to Tokyo, Ambassador Mamoru Shigemitsu, Japanese Ambassador to Nanking, Sotaro Ishiwata, economic adviser to the Nanking Government, former special Ambassador to Nanking General Nobuyuki Abe, Baron Kiichiro Hiranuma, also former special Ambassador to Nanking, and many other prominent persons, numbering altogether about 60, also were invited to the function. Foreign Minister Masayuki Tani delivered a welcome speech, which was responded to by President Wang.

Meanwhile, President Wang sent Dr. Chu Min-yi as his proxy to the residence of Ryusuke Miyazaki at Toshima-ku to offer a message of condolence and monetary gifts to him for the death of his mother, Tsuchiko Miyazaki, at the age of 72 on Wednesday. The late Mrs. Miyazaki was wife of the late Toten Miyazaki, a well-known nationalist and benefactor of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, father of the Chinese Revolution, and many other Chinese revolutionists, including President Wang.

Chu Visits Wounded

Meanwhile, Dr. Chu Min-yi, visiting Foreign Minister of China Thursday morning on behalf of President Wang Ching-wei visited the Army Hospital in Ushigome Ward for an hour.

Foreign Minister Chu inspected the Internal Disease and Surgery Departments as well as comforting the wounded soldiers. He was greatly interested in the engravings and pictures done by the wounded soldiers, and after making a monetary contribution, he left the hospital.

In the afternoon he also visited the Navy Hospital in Meguro Ward and likewise comforted the patients.

Chou Sees Yuki

At the same time, Chou Fo-hai, visiting vice-president of the Executive Yuan and concurrently Minister of Finance of the National Government of China, in the morning visited Mr. Toyotaro Yuki, Governor of the Bank of Japan, at the head office of the national bank in Nihonbashi Ward.

In the course of an interview which lasted for about one hour, the Chinese Finance Minister and the Japanese financial leader discussed various problems concerning promotion of economic co-ordination between Tokyo and Nanking.

Mr. Chou is visiting Tokyo as a member of the suite of Mr. Wang Ching-wei, President of the Executive Yuan.

IRISH PRISON OVERCROWDED

Londonderry Jail Reopened to Accommodate Anti-British Inmates

STOCKHOLM.—The arrests made in recent weeks of anti-British elements among the civilian population of Ulster, which led to the overcrowding of all available prisons, have induced the Ulster Government to order the reopening of the Londonderry prison which had been closed for several years, states a Belfast message.

The first batch of 250 prisoners have already been sent to Londonderry. These were mostly young members of the Irish Republican Army, who were transported over a distance of 100 kilometers to Londonderry in chains on 10 motor trucks escorted by armed police.

INDIANS JOIN IN PRAYER

Meeting Held in Accordance With Imperial Decree

The Indian Community of Yokohama assembled at the Indian Temple in that city on December 22, at 3 p.m., at which time special prayers were offered for Japan's swift and brilliant victory in the War of Greater East Asia.

This special prayer meeting was held under the auspices of the Indian Independence League.

Typhoid Hits Ireland

STOCKHOLM.—A typhoid fever epidemic has broken out in southern Ireland, according to a London report. Other contagious diseases like spinal meningitis and diptheria have also broken out in several districts in Ireland, the report said.

Members of French Expedition Encounter Traces of Unknown Civilization in Amazon

VICHY—Traces have been discovered by a French expedition of a so far completely unknown civilization in the territory where the Amazon River originates.

A member of this expedition, Jean de Guebriant, who recently returned to France after almost two years' stay in South America, stated that he and two others, Bertrand Flor and Fred Matter, had undertaken the trip by order of the French Secretary-General for Questions Pertaining to Youth.

The expedition, he declared upon his arrival in Vichy, was a complete success. The most important result was the discovery of remnants of an unknown civilization in the Maranon River region, a tributary of the Amazon, which completely differed from the Inca civilization.

Discovery of the source of the Maranon River in the Cordilleras at the Ninon Cocha Glacier was described by the young scientist as the second important result of the expedition. Explorations were also made in the vicinity of the Lauri Cocha Lake which was generally considered the source of the Amazon River.

The party stayed several months with the Jivaro Indians, during which time they observed with great interest the habits and customs of these natives.

At present the other two members of the expedition are in Rio de Janeiro, added the explorer in conclusion.

STUDY OF JAPANESE IS POPULAR IN F.I.C.

Officials of Embassy Acting as Teachers at Night Schools, Says Kinoshita

"The people of French Indo-China are showing great enthusiasm in learning the Nippon language, and officials of the Nipponese Ambassadorial Office employing their full leisure time are teaching them the Nipponese language at night schools," stated Shin Kinoshita, adviser to the Nipponese Ambassadorial Office in French Indo-China in a interview Thursday with Domei at Taihoku.

Mr. Kinoshita who arrived in Taiwan from French Indo-China by plane, on his way to Tokyo to attend the forthcoming session of the Diet, declared that seven Annamite students, including two girls, will shortly leave for Nippon to study in Tokyo. "They are," he said, "the exchange students invited by Nippon for a period between three to five years."

On the other hand, he added, the South Seas Society will shortly open the South Seas College in French Indo-China, which will undertake practical education in agriculture and commerce.

"As to the cooperation extended by the Taiwan Government-General authorities for the development of French Indo-China," he continued, "there are 50 young men from Taiwan stationed in French Indo-China, earnestly guiding the people of the French Indo-China in agricultural work, and steadily gaining favorable result."

Mr. Kinoshita, touching on the clever British and American radio propaganda declared that the Nipponese broadcasts should be further strengthened in order to meet the enemy's propaganda.

Regarding the sample fair now being held in Saigon, Kikujiro Takagi, director of the Foreign Trade Control Association, who also arrived here together with Mr. Kinshita, in turn stated that on the first day of the opening of the fair, over 60,000 persons visited the Nippon Pavillion where Nippon manufactured articles were exhibited.

"I keenly felt that the people of French Indo-China, compared with similar fairs held before the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, have shown a deep interest toward the Nipponese articles exhibited in the sample fair", Mr. Takagi asserted.

Imperial Units Captured All Strategic Points

(Continued From Page 1)

any officer less than the British Governor-General and Commander, Sir Mark Young and Major General C. M. Maltby finally appeared for negotiations and were taken to the Peninsula Hotel.

In the course of a 15-minute conference in a candle-lit room the British unconditionally surrendered and pledged to end all resistance as well as to disarm.

After 18 days of internment, the staff of the Japanese Consulate-General and Japanese residents of the Island were informed of the fall of the British port. The news spread to the air-raid shelters, and when the refugees came out in the open they saw that public order already was being maintained by Japanese sentinels.

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Rudolf Voll

81st Session Of Diet Opens This Saturday

(Continued from Page 1)

the date for the opening ceremony of the Diet session.

The chiefs and secretaries of the various sections of the House of Representatives are:

First Section: Minotaro Kawasaki, Chief; Iwao Kuroda, Secretary.

Second Section: Matajiro Koizumi, Chief; Isaji Tanaka, Secretary.

Third Section: Kichibei Yoshikawa, Chief; Naotomo Hamada, Secretary.

Fourth Section: Heikichi Ide, Chief; Eiji Arima, Secretary.

Fifth Section: Takao Saito, Chief; Yukichi Niki, Secretary.

Sixth Section: Hajime Mori, Chief; Yoshijiro Murasawa, Secretary.

Seventh Section: Kiroku Oguchi, Chief; Heibei Sakaguchi, Secretary.

Eighth Section: Tomomasa Kato, Chief; Yoshiichi Fukunoya, Secretary.

Ninth Section: Kojiro Matsukata, Chief; Koichi Uda, Secretary.

The members of the House of Peers met in the Chamber of the House at 9:05 a.m. They left to President Count Yorinaga Matsudaira of the House the determination of the personnel of the various sections of the House. After a short rest, the Secretary of the House announced to the assembled members the result of the elections of the Chiefs and Secretaries of the sections.

House of Peers Organized

Here the President announced to the members the completion of the organization of the House of Peers. The assembled members dispersed at 9:35 a.m.

The chiefs and secretaries of the sections of the House of Peers are:

First Section: Prince Hirotaro Katsura, Chief; Viscount Masaaki Hoshina, Secretary.

Second Section: Prince Iyemasa Tokugawa, Chief; Hiroyoshi Hiratsuka, Secretary.

Third Section: Prince Sanetaka Ichijo, Chief; Count Hirotaro Hayashi, Secretary.

Fourth Section: Count Yatsutsugu Yanagisawa, Chief; Baron Kimpei Matsuoka, Secretary.

Fifth Section: Prince Tadashige Shimazu, Chief; Seiji Tsukamoto, Secretary.

Sixth Section: Marquis Saburo Inouye, Chief; Viscount Kiyokata Funabashi, Secretary.

Seventh Section: Marquis Sukechika Nakayama, Chief; Viscount Sukekuni Soga, Secretary.

Eighth Section: Marquis Moritatsu Hosokawa, Chief; Viscount Nagakoto Kiyooka, Secretary.

Ninth Section: Prince Tadatsugu Shimazu, Chief; Mannosuke Yamaoka, Secretary.

Interned Men Awaited Day of Deliverance

(Continued From Page 1)

the supreme tragedy of the British Empire."

The Consul movingly concluded his story in the following vein:

"One year has already passed since that time. The sound of reconstruction is reverberating strongly in Hongkong today.

"I want to see this Hongkong which has discarded its British veneer once more with my own eyes before anything else."

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Hori Raps Leaders Of U.S. and Britain

(Continued From Page 1)

forced upon the peoples of the world by America and Britain, two countries which have loudly professed their adherence to Christian principles in their international dealings, but whose irresponsible leaders, failing utterly to live up to them in practice, have betrayed the trust of their own people.

"While preaching Christian ideals they turned their backs to the practice of the principles of justice, equality and fairness and sought only to satisfy their desire for selfish profit and selfish power. They have been aware only of their own welfare, even at the expense of others, and have been utterly blind to the genuine aspiration of other peoples to improve their conditions of life. They have been guided solely by the policy of pressure, not the principle of consideration for others. And now they are trying to put the blame for their own sins upon others.

"Our aims and our efforts in this war look to the creation of a world in which the high human principles of brotherhood and mutual consideration will actually govern the conduct of men and nations in their relations, one with the other. They are principles which are cherished in common by all men regardless of race, creed or religion.

"Our new world order must be completely free of hypocrisy. It must be free of the practice of exploitation and the pursuit of private gains at the expense and misery of others. It must be a world wherein the common human spirit which even in these dark days of strife burns in the innermost heart of all men will prevail over and administer the affairs of nations and peoples.

"Only by eliminating, once and for all, the selfish American and British ambition of world domination and only by establishing a new world domination and only by establishing a new world order, founded upon the highest ideals of humanity, observed both in principle and in practice, may the Christian peoples of the world celebrate a truly merry Christmas and in complete harmony with the Christmas message of "peace on earth, goodwill to men."

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Immortal Names In History

Kenzan Nonaka

Night fell on the little town on the border of Senshu. In a little house at one end of the town, a middle-aged woman sat sewing under the dim light of the "andon." Beside her sat a child of about eight before a desk.

The deep lines on the woman's face told of the many years of hard struggle she had to go through, but anyone could tell at a glance that she was of noble birth.

"Yes, son. Your father was a very strict person," she was telling her son. "He was even severe and often stubborn. That was why he was able to throw away his high stipend of 10,000 koku and leave Tosa."

"Ten thousand koku? Why, mother, was father receiving that much?"

"Yes. As you are old enough now, I shall tell you all about your father and the Yamanouchi family.

"First of all, your ancestor was a samurai of Banshu. After some service to the clan, he became a ronin and went to the province of Mino, where he lived at Nonaka in Shimizu-mura. This is where he got his name."

Then she went on to say that in the Sengoku Period a Doei of the Nonaka family, who owned many fields and forests, made a name for the house with his wealth and power.

Yoshiaki

His son, Yoshihira, served Hideyoshi Toyotomi in many a battle and would have become the lord of a province had he not died too soon. The son of this Yoshihira was Yoshiaki, the father of the boy, Sahachiro.

As Yoshiaki's mother was the younger sister of Lord Kazutoyo Yamanouchi, the former lord of Tosa, Lord Kazutoyo bestowed many favors upon him and even gave him the surname of Yamanouchi. When he, Lord Kazutoyo, was the lord of Kakegawa in Enshu, he gave the father a stipend of 3,000 koku and put him first among the principal retainers.

Later, when Kazutoyo became the lord of Tosa, he increased Yoshiaki's stipend to 5,000 koku and immediately after, promised Yoshiaki the headship of Nakamura of Hata District with a stipend of 29,000 koku.

However, when Tadayoshi became the lord after the death of Kazutoyo, he broke the promise and gave Yoshiaki only 11,000 koku. Burning with rage, the sharp-tempered Yoshiaki abruptly left Tosa.

He then went to Toshitaka Ikeda, the lord of Himeji in Banshu, for Tajima Arao, the principal retainer of Lord Ikeda happened to be his relative.

Hearing the reason for Yoshiaki's abrupt departure from Tosa, Lord Ikeda told him to remain in Banshu, promising a stipend of 10,000 koku. The strong-willed Yoshiaki, however, did not accept the offer, for it was not the 29,000 koku stipend he had wanted but Lord Tadayoshi's failure to fulfill the promise that had made him leave Tosa.

Sahachiro

After staying for a while at Lord Ikeda's, he left, for the headship of the castle and province fell to Mitsumasa Ikeda after the death of Toshitaka. The year prior to this, the child, Sahachiro was born.

Taking his wife and son, he left for Kyoto, and three years later, he died at the age of 49. Yoshiaki, who had once been the principal retainer of Tosa with an annual stipend of 10,000 koku, had thus died miserably, far from friends and acquaintances.

Hearing the pitiful but stirring story of his father, the child resolved to accomplish what the father had left unfulfilled and regain the name of the Yamanouchi family.

This child was none other than the later Kenzan Nonaka, who did much for the welfare of Tosa as the chief retainer of that province.

Years of Struggle

The hard struggling life of Kenzan and his mother continued for ten long years. One day, when Kenzan was 13 years old, a samurai, so strange and rare in that part of the country, came to visit them. The mother was greatly surprised for he was Ogura, a friend of Gemba Nonaka.

"I have come to ask you if you would not give your son, Sahachiro, to Gemba Nonaka to be adopted by him," Ogura stated his mission soon after he was led into the room.

"Sahachiro for the adopted son of Gemba? You don't really mean it." The mother could hardly believe his words.

"That is just what I mean. As you well know, Gemba Nonaka has no heir. Seeing his anxiety to get one, I have been thinking of a suitable child whom he can adopt, and have suddenly thought of Sahachiro.

"There cannot be a better one, for Sahachiro is quite closely related to Gemba. Besides, having seen Sahachiro several years ago, I have always thought of him as being no ordinary child. I am quite convinced that he will grow into a great statesman.

"I suggested to Gemba Nonaka that he adopt Sahachiro, and having received approval, I have come to get Sahachiro. If you would approve of my idea, I would be much obliged to have you two come immediately with me to Tosa."

This was an unexpected surprise and fortune. Could there be a better way toward success for Kenzan? The ten years of hard struggle had finally been rewarded. After a short talk with her son, the mother immediately gave her approval.

Thus through the good offices of Shosuke Ogura, Kenzan became the heir of Gemba Naotsugu Nonaka, the magistrate of the Tosa clan. From that day he passed the days under the strict supervision of his foster father and the gentle care of his foster mother, going through various military training.

Greater Statesman

At 22 he succeeded his foster-father. Although Naotsugu was a great politician, with a special talent for managing the clan's finances, Kenzan proved himself to be even a greater statesman, accomplishing much during the 29 years he was in office.

The first great work he did as the chief retainer of Tosa was the establishing of the Country Samurai System, according to which he made the descendents of Chosokabe's retainers into country samurai.

The province of Tosa originally belonged to Motochika Chosokabe, who lost it to Iyeyasu Tokugawa because he had sided with Hideyoshi Toyotomi in the battle against Tokugawa at Sekigahara.

For this reason there were many descendents of the former Chosokabe retainers in Tosa. These rebelled against the House of Yamanouchi, which came to rule the province, and gave no peace.

At the time of Lord Tadayoshi the Second, the unrest was more or less eased, but rebels continued to rise in the rural districts. Seeing that these discontented subjects were the first obstacle against good administration Kenzan thought of some means of pacifying them.

To the well behaved ones of the former Chosokabe subjects he gave the rank of country samurai, and established a system in which these samurai cultivated wild lands, which came under their possession after three years.

Kenzan not only pacified them in this way but had them open lands. He also had designs of making them soldiers should war arise.

Riding Festival

There was a custom in the Yamanouchi family to hold a riding festival annually on January 11. In this festival, the best riders in the clan raced on horses from Hommachi, Kochi, to Horizume. The participants in this ceremony were limited to the hereditary vassals of the Yamanouchi family. However, when Kenzan came to take the headship of the family, he allowed the country samurai to take part.

This benevolent move on the part of Kenzan greatly impressed the once rebellious Chosokabe subjects, and when their representatives were awarded prizes, they became loyal subjects of the clan.

Another of Kenzan's great works as the chief retainer of Tosa was the opening up of wild land. The first land he opened up was the basin of the Monobe River. The water condition here was poor, preventing the growth of the plants. To add to this difficulty, when rain storm broke out, the river overflowed and caused serious damages.

To prevent the flood, and to help the growth of the plants, Kenzan had a dam constructed and canals dug in the fields. The wild lands where foxes and badgers once romped about were changed to beautiful farms within ten years.

He later constructed the ports of Tsuro, Murotsu, and Tei to help the navigators and fishermen. He also encouraged industry, importing farm and marine products not found in Tosa from other provinces.

Bee Incident

One year, as his boat was passing off Kishu on its way back from Yedo to Tosa, a swarm of bees gathered around the mast. Kenzan had the honeybees taken to raise on his farm in Motoyama. These were the first honeybees to be taken into Tosa.

As a coolie was carrying the box of bees, he accidently let some fly away. The punishment for his carelessness could not be light, with fear, the coolie went to apologize to Kenzan.

"Where did this happen?" Kenzan asked.

"It was immediately after we entered Tosa. The bees flew toward Mount None."

"Well, then you need not worry, for Mount None is in Tosa, and we were going to raise the bees in Tosa anyway. I don't see why I should punish you."

Greatly relieved to hear these unexpected words, the coolie left with a light heart and a strong determination to work harder for this broad-minded chief retainer.

The honeybees multiplied with amazing speed, bringing large profits to the clan.

It was Kenzan again that started the whaling industry in Tosa.

Among Kenzan's vassals was an Ochi Toemon, who, being intelligent and capable, was appointed a magistrate of the Aki District. Seeing the shoals of whales spouting water off Tosa, Toemon always wished that something could be done about them. He finally went to Kenzan and told him of a Masatsugu Oike, an expert whaler in Owari. The whaler was called and on the very first day, he caught 13 whales.

Fish Pioneer

Tosa also owes its large variety of fish to Kenzan. In the first year of the Meireki era (1655), he imported 10,000 carp from Osaka and let them breed in the Kanda River. The first attempt having failed, he bought another ten thousand of carp and 10,000 catfish, which he released in the various rivers in Tosa. The carp and catfish propagated, covering a large part of the fish supply of that region even to this day.

There is an interesting story connected with the shell-fish industry which he started also. He wrote to his friend in Tosa during one of his stays in Yedo that on his next return he would take a shipload of clams as a gift to the people.

The people awaited eagerly for his return, for clams were rare in Tosa. Finally the report came that Kenzan was on his return home.

Seeing his friends who had come in a boat to the entrance of the port to welcome him, he shouted with joy that the clams were there as he had promised and that they should wait a while. Then as the vessel sailed into the harbor, he threw the clams into the water, until there was none left by the time the ship docked.

When asked why he threw away the clams which he had brought all the way from Yedo, he merely smiled, saying, "Now, I'll have gifts not only for you but for your future generations." He always had the many and the whole in mind instead of the individual and the few.

Kenzan not only reformed and developed his province in many ways, but showed his skill as a politician and a diplomat in matters connected with the Shogunate Government and other clans.

The Great Fire

At the time of the great fire in Yedo in the 3rd year of the Meireki era (1657), when half of the capital was reduced to ashes and some 18,000 people were burned to death, Kenzan, who happened to be in Yedo then, rendered great service in fighting the fire.

After the fire was stopped, he immediately sent ships to Tosa to bring gifts of lumber to reconstruct the Yedo Castle. His agility and shrewdness surprised the Shogun and the lords of the various clans, bringing praises and prestige to his own lord.

The arrival of the large ships loaded with lumber, was a great occassion to the Yedoites. Never had so many ships sailed on the Asakusa River at once. Commissioned by the Shogun, the Shogun's brothers, Umanokami and Samanokami, were there to meet the ships. The people came from all parts of Yedo to see, making a real festival of the occasion.

As he gained fame and popularity, the other chief retainers who had always resented his rising fame, showed more enmity than ever. These retainers, who were Dewa Fukao, Inaba Dewa, and Shimofusa Yamanouchi, petitioned to the Shogunate Government, saying that the people were suffering from Kenzan's severe rule and from the high tariff he levied on them.

Seclusion

The lord of Tosa at that time was Tadatoyo, Lord Tadayoshi, by whom Kenzan was greatly trusted, having resigned. Knowing that he was not trusted by the present lord, when he was commanded to settle all political affairs after consulting the other three chief retainers, he resolutely resigned from his office.

Giving the headship of the family to his son, Seihichi, he then secluded himself in Nakano, with only the 18 year old Jirohachi Furumaki at his side to serve him. The busy active life of yesterday was changed to a lonely one. He passed his days absorbed in books until he finally passed away on December 15 of the 3rd year of the Kanmon era (1663) at 49 years of age.

The three chief retainers were not satisfied with only the death of Kenzan. On March 3, about seventy days after Kenzan passed away, a messenger was sent to Kenzan's home, where the children were celebrating the doll's festival.

The messenger brought orders that as Kenzan's conspiracy against the government before his death had been discovered, the stipend of Seihichi Kazuaki, the heir, had been discontinued and the family had been sentenced to domicile confinement at Sukumo.

Although the sentence was entirely without cause, the clan's orders had to be obeyed. The foster mother, wife and seven children went in a boat to Sukumo.

Life here was a miserable one. Although Sukumo was owned by the parents of Kenzan's foster mother, the watch was so severe that no one could go out a step beyond the house. Forty weary years passed by. The boys in the family could not take any wife though they were way past the age, nor could the girls be married. Just as the malignant retainers had wished, the Kenzan family was doomed to a gradual and natural extermination.

Three Daughters

Finally the family was pardoned but at this time the four sons were already dead and only the three daughters remained. Having no courage to face the world, the first and the third daughters decided to remain at the place of confinement. Only the second daughter, Enjo, went back to Kochi.

Enjo, who had been only four at the time of the sentence, was now a middle-aged woman of forty-three. During her confinement she had studied with her brother, Kishiro, under Shinzan Tani, a scholar of renown. Since they were prohibited from all outside contact, the only way they could study under anyone was by means of letters. However, by the time she was freed, she was a learned scholar well versed in medicine and a poetess as well.

She had gone back to Kochi, where painful memories lurked, to build a tomb for her father. She resided at the home of Kurozaemon Inoue, a former retainer and opening an office as a physician, helped the sick and poor.

She absolutely refused to see any of the clan's samurai. When anyone came to be treated, she had a string tied to his wrist and saw the pulsation from the next room. "Enjo's string pulsation" was well known among the people of Kochi at that time.

Hearing of her poverty, the Lord of Tosa tried to give aid, which she refused, saying that she had no reason for accepting it.

Family Pride

One day she was going to the town in a palanquin when the son of the chief retainer of that time came by on horseback. The palanquin carriers tried to make way for the rider, seeing who he was. The proud Enjo reprimanded them severely from within.

"Why do you give way? I am the daughter of Kenzan Nonaka, the former chief retainer of this clan. Go proudly in the middle of the road."

After going through many trying experiences, the brave woman finally succeeded in constructing a tomb for her father and her ancestors at Yamada in the District of Kagami.

Now that her lifelong wish was fulfilled, she felt that she was vastly relieved and died peacefully in the 10th year of the Kyoho era (1725) at the age of 65 and with her death, the last of the Nonaka family expired.

Tosa owes all its richly forested mountains, its ever developing industries to Kenzan, the father of Tosa's prosperity.

At the time of his death, the farmers secretly erected a memorial to commemorate his work but it was not till years later that they could openly show their reverence for him. When Kenzan's distinguished services were finally brought to light, shrines and memorials were erected throughout the province. Tosa owes much to the unfortunate hero, Kenzan Nonaka.

JOY OF NUMISMATICS KNOWN TO SELECT FEW AMONG CONNOISSEURS

First Coin in Japan Modeled After Chinese Original Of Sui Dynasty, Called Wado-Kaichinsen, 708 A.D.: Famous Kanei Coins Cast by Mito Clan Under Special Permit From Shogunate

In Japan the hobby of coin collecting is shared by only a few. Apparently, the pursuit does not appeal to public taste like collecting art objects, panels of ideographs, pictures and curios. The hobby, moreover, is comparatively new.

I believe that there is nothing so delightful and fascinating as examining the sizes and shapes of old coins, the quality of their metal and workmanship, and the noble colors and patina old coins acquire by the ravages of time. There is a peculiar joy also in studying the different characters on the faces of old coins and the history of the eras in which they were cast.

Moreover, the hobby is not an expensive one, at least when compared with the collecting of art objects, and requires little space and labor. A good collection can be easily housed in a small wooden box.

The hobby grows on like a mysterious malady. Once the collector finds that he has about a hundred or so old coins, he naturally develops an absorbing curiosity about the details of each coin. He begins to study them, devising various methods of classification which happen to appeal to his fancy. With such a beginning, some may take to the collection of ancient Chinese coins bearing characters before the Tang Dynasty, while others may find those of the Northern Sung Dynasty preferable.

Those interested in old Japanese coins often specialize in collecting various kinds of Kan-ei coins; that is, those first issued in the Kan-ei era (1624-1643), and others find the coins of the Bunkyu era (1861-1863) more fascinating.

Personally, I am interested in all kinds of Japanese and Chinese coins and various objects associated with them. As a result of an unceasing effort over the past forty years, I have succeeded in collecting about one hundred thousand Japanese coins, about the same number of Chinese coins, and some fifty thousand articles relating to them

From Plaything to Hobby

When I was a boy, my father was very poor, although he finally became a very successful businessman. At the annual religious festival, I used to receive a nickel or a copper coin from my father, and occasionally my mother gave me a piece of the Kan-ei Kunkyu era.

When I was about ten years old, I began to save the coins of the lowest denominations and played with them. In due course of time, I found out that the characters on their faces, the square holes in their centers, and the designs on their backs more or less differed. My interest naturally grew, and I began to make a study of what were at first my playthings.

That study has grown into a pursuit over forty years of my life. By the time I was twenty-six when I inherited my father's property, I was collecting coins in earnest. Since my father had left me a comfortable fortune, I was financially able to pursue my hobby, and my collection today is evidence of the profound gratitude I hold toward my parent.

When I first began my collection, the old feudal spirit was still alive, and people in the higher social strata, imbued with the spirit of the feudal ruling class and military men, were inclined to regard money with contempt. The coin collector was regarded in the same light as a miser. I observed the situation, and realizing that it was advantageous to one setting out as a collector, I proceeded to collect as many old coins as possible.

My method was quite different from that of my friends, most of whom attempted to secure what other collectors happened to be seeking at that particular moment. I sought the kind of coins my friends were not interested in, and went about it with great speed, for speed is essential in this hobby as in all collections, as one must keep ahead of scarcity and high prices. But the hobby of collecting old coins is born of a refined taste, and no one should indulge in it for profit.

First Japanese Coins

The first coins cast in Japan were modeled after those of China. Intercourse between the two countries began as early as the reign of Suiko Tenno. With the rapid infiltration of Chinese culture, Chinese coins of various kinds then in circulation during the Sui and Tang Dynasties were brought to Japan.

The first Japanese coin copied after the 5 shu coin of the Sui Dynasty of China was the Wado-kaichinsen, coined in 708 A.D. It was a copper or silver coin with a square hole in the center. Incidentally, natural copper was first discovered and mined in Japan in the same year in Chichibu county of Musashi Province.

During the period of the Tokugawa Shogunate (1603-1868), the currency system was based on gold, silver, and copper standards. As rice was used as a medium of payment during this period, rice also formed another standard of currency and its value was well balanced with the value of gold, silver, and copper as the basis of the political and financial structure.

During the Kan-ei era (1624-1643) Japan became a closed country, and it was then that the Shogunate granted a permit to the Mito clan to cast the Kan-ei coins. It was a period of peace and economic and cultural advancement, which stimulated the demand for coins. Thus two more mints were established in 1636 and eight more the following year to cast more Kan-ei coins to meet the new demand.

Subsequently, though the names of the eras changed, coins continued to bear the Kan-ei mark, with a few exceptions. For this reason there is a large variety in the Kan-ei coins. Those issued in May, for example, were an alloy of iron and brass and had twenty-one curved lines on their backs representing the waves. The number of curved lines was reduced to eleven in the following year.

The value of the Tempo coin, which was originally equivalent to 100 mon coins, was fixed at eight rin according to the new currency act of 1871. These coins were finally withdrawn from circulation in December, 1891.

When I was a boy, a person of low intelligence was called a "Tempo sen," because he was a little less in wit than an ordinary person just as a Tempo coin was a little less in value than one copper sen.

The Tempo coin was introduced by the Tokugawa Shogunate in the Tempo era in an effort to offset its financial difficulty. The coin bears "Tempo Tsuho" (Tempo Currency) on its face and "To-hyaku" (equivalent to 100 mon) on its back. According to an investigation, 100 mon coins weighed only about 300 to 340 grammes, showing that the Shogunate could get 16 Tempo coins out of 100 mon coins by reminting. Through this method the Shogunate attempted to lighten its financial burdens, as many mon coins were then in circulation.

Daiba Currency

The large, oblong old coin, known as "Daiba currency," is believed by many to have really been in circulation. But this is a figment of the imagination. The real Daiba coin was a small silver piece known as "Isshu silver." It corresponded to 250 mon in value, and was put in circulation in 1855, the year before Commodore Perry's revisit to Tokyo Bay.

When the Commodore arrived off the coast with a fleet of warships and demanded the opening of the country, the nation was plunged into dismay and disorder. This led the authorities to realize the necessity for national defense, and the Shogunate immediately went about building Daiba, or fortification, off the coast of Shinagawa.

A large number of coolies were employed at a wage of 250 mon a day each. They were paid off with the Isshu silver coins, equivalent to 250 mon. The so-called "Daiba currency" of a large, oblong shape, which is still often handled by petty merchants at night fairs, was invented by one Otabe and was no more than a toy.

Otabe was also the inventor of the so-called "Nambu-no-umaichi," a metal in the shape of a weight, which is also believed by many to have been in circulation as a coin. The metal of this device is often found in old coin markets, and collectors should guard against it.

The silver coin known as "Ichibu Gin," or Ichibu silver, was first minted in 1837. It weighed 8.6398 grammes, which was incidentally one-third the weight of the Mexican dollar used for foreign trade. For this reason the Shogunate made the Mexican dollar equivalent to three Ichibu. Foreign merchants bought Mexican dollars in great quantity and exchanged them for Japanese "Koban," a small gold coin.

In those days the relative value of gold and silver in Japan was one unit of gold against five or six units of silver, but the actual international value was something like one to 13 or 14. The Japanese authorities were ignorant of this difference, with the result that the exchange of Mexican dollars for Japanese gold coins on the domestic market caused an outflow of an enormous amount of gold.

The "Genroku Koban," a small gold coin minted during the Genroku era (1688-1704), was the same in weight with the "Koicho Koban," a similar coin of the Keicho era (1596-1614), that is, about 17.6652 grammes. But the quality of gold was lower by 25 per cent. The quality of silver coins was also lower by 20 per cent. It was inevitable under such conditions that the price of commodities should begin to rise.

The quality of the gold coins issued in the Hoei era (1704-1710) was the same as that of the Keicho gold coin, but they did not weigh more than about 9.3914 grammes. Silver coins contained 20 per cent silver.

So debased were the coins that they assumed a dark color and looked more like copper than silver. At the same time, the Shogunate undertook to expand the currency.

Gold and Silver Coins

This inflation stimulated prices and people began to indulge in luxury and speculation. To rectify this situation, the Shogunate issued gold and silver coins in 1714 that were the same in quality with those of the Keicho era, and again during the Kyoho era (1716-1735), in an effort to tighten the money market.

This in turn caused a sharp drop in the prices of commodities. The samurai who were paid with rice faced a serious financial difficulty. The economic depression was so severe that people began to hope for the reappearance of currency of bad quality which might bring up the price of commodities.

In 1736, therefore, the Shogunate issued gold coins which were moderate in quality and weight. They were called the "Gembun Koban" because they were minted in the Gembun era (1736-1740). They weighed 13.1470 grammes. Silver coins contained 46 per cent of silver.

The Gembun gold coins were marked with a character "bun" to show that they were of the Gembun

(Continued on Page 5)

The VENDETTA OF AKO

EIJI YOSHIKAWA

Translated by Tsuneo Tomonaga
From Eiji Yoshikawa's 'Chushingura'

Chapter 36

Strange Business

Never before had the difference in status between samurai and citizen been so clearly defined by any event as by the present calamity. Like the bare branches of leafless trees outlined against the wintry sky, the essential differences between the samurai's and the townsman's spirit of living stood defined before the eyes of all men.

On the one hand the samurai refused to recognize any motive for living that was not connected with the clan and its name, and now that the clan was doomed they had nothing else to do but die; on the other hand, the townsmen's motives for living were all centered on their own selves, and now that the fall of the Ako clan was clear before their eyes, all they could think of was the financial ruin that stared them in the face.

After the first run of panic, however, they seemed to have realized their shameful conduct in acting as they did, and though the notices at all the street corners proclaimed that a sixty per cent change would be effected for their clan notes, they did not rush to the transaction office as eagerly as Oishi had expected.

Oishi remained in his house for two days, without going out for a moment. On the second day he sent Yasoemon Okajima, the counting clerk, to find out if the townsmen had all come to change their notes.

Yasoemon went to the transaction office, and was surprised to find that not a single townsman was there.

"Are they dissatisfied with the sixty per cent change?" he asked Shinzaemon Katta who was on duty at the office.

"No, not at all. Far from it," said Katta. "The townsmen who came here all returned with tears in their eyes. There was not a single man who was not loud in his praise of Oishi's action. That many of them have not come yet is a sign that they have realized that their fears have been in vain."

"Chief Retainer Oishi feared it was so. He says that the rest of the clan's business will be delayed. It is his desire that you will send word to the chief men of the town, and notify them that the townsmen must all change their notes within the next three days."

"That is good, but has the messenger who went to Lord Asano of Geishu returned?"

"Returned? He was recalled before he had gone half the distance. Oishi found that the clan's expenses could be met with by the salt revenues and other incomes."

"Good again. Well, I'll send word to the chief men of the town."

Meanwhile, in the town, a curious business was going on. This was the secret selling of weapons. Nobody seemed to know who the buyers were, or where the weapons were going, but even the bluntest sword and the rustiest spear, covered with dust and cobwebs as they were, were sold like hot cakes.

It was rumored that very morning a boat had touched at the harbor, and several men, with money bags round their necks, had entered the town. People said that they looked like men from the Eastern districts.

They seemed to be specialists in every branch of curio-dealing, from old books to downright junk. They roamed the streets, buying up all the iron they could get hold of. The townsmen became used to them. Even when a group of these strangers passed before their houses, pushing a cart loaded with an old and rusty cannon which none of the townsmen could remember having seen before, nobody said anything.

Some of the strangers went about trying to buy up all the horses they could find. They seemed to have an endless supply of money, for they did not stint at any price. And yet the men did not look as though they were ordinarily used to having so much money. They liked to show off their wealth.

Going to some poor samurai's house, one of these strangers would jingle the bag of money round his neck, and ask for a horse.

"Come, have you any horse to sell? If it is good, I will pay any amount you ask for it."

If one of them managed to get a horse with a saddle attached, he would proudly lead it through the streets with an unnecessarily loud clatter of hoofs.

Meanwhile, at the harbor, business was so brisk that the demand for cargo-boats, jolly-boats and lighters which had remained hitherto idle by the jetty became so urgent that the harbor witnessed for the first time a scarcity of bottoms, and the shipping agents, with bloodshot eyes, scurried hither and thither in search of more boatmen. The price of labor had shot up thirty per cent, and yet there was not a single navvy who was idle.

Nobody seemed to know how the sudden demand for labor arose, or where all the cargo disappeared to. It was a still greater mystery where the purchasing power came from. But one fact was undeniable, and that was that the sudden disaster which had befallen the whole clan of Ako was accompanied by a strange flood-tide of prosperity which swept over the castle-town. Thus it was that the townsmen, always on the alert for good business, found it hard to spare even the time to go to the transaction office to change their clan notes. They had no need to.

(To Be Continued)

"The Best English Translation of Any Literary Work in Japanese That I Have Ever Read"

says Professor Asataro Miyamori of the Vendetta of Ako. Professor Miyamori is a famous figure in Japanese literary circles. He has been engaged in introducing Japanese literature to foreign countries by publishing English translations. His works include "Joruri Monogatari" and "Samurai Monogatari," both in English, and English translations of masterpieces of Chikamatsu, Haiku poems and Tanka poems.

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PLANNED ECONOMY NEARS COMPLETION

Authority on Economics Explains Structure Essential for Japan's Victory in War

The economic structure which would secure Japan's final victory in the present war is explained in the January issue of the Keizai Magazine by Dr. Masataka Ota, one of the foremost authorities on current economic questions:

"The planned economy for Greater East Asia, thanks to our efforts since the outbreak of the present war in the Pacific, is reaching a stage of completion," says Dr. Ota.

Continuing, he says:

"The planned economy for Greater East Asia may be itemized as follows:

"(1) Materials mobilization plan.

"(2) Productive power expansion plan.

"(3) Comprehensive plan to secure the supply of daily necessities.

"(4) Electric power mobilization plan.

"(5) Traffic facilities mobilization plan.

"(6) Capital adjustment plan.

"(8) National mobilization plan.

Aims of Plans

"Of these eight plans, the first six are aimed at the mobilization of various materials, the seventh at the mobilization of funds, and the eighth at the mobilization of men.

"It is to be noticed that daily necessities are now included in the objectives of planned economy. For instance, provisions and clothing are now being rationed out in accordance with the economic plan of the state.

"Meantime, national mobilization, or the mobilization of manpower has been extended to salaried men, whereas formerly it had been applied to factory operatives only.

"Another noticeable point is the fundamental change in the materials coming under planned economy. Prior to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, in a measure Japan could import war materials needed at the China front from the United States and Britain. After the outbreak of the present war in the Pacific, these imports from the two countries stated above have ceased entirely as a matter of course. But, in place of these, Japan has come into possession of various materials in the southern regions.

"The third feature of Japan's planned economy lies in the decision to make the most use of what we have in the country, including idle factory equipment and all important materials on hand, while exercising great efforts simultaneously to produce new factory equipment and to develop new mineral resources.

Will Enter 2nd Stage

"Beginning 1943, Japan will enter the second stage of its productive power expansion plan. Speaking briefly, Japan has got through with preparations for the construction of a complete economic structure which will secure the country's final victory in the present great war.

"Since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the Japanese have been willingly paying higher taxes, which however, are much lower in comparison with similar levies which citizens of other belligerent nations, especially those of America and Britain, have to pay.

"In order to prosecute the present great war, the Japanese Government has been encouraging the savings habit among the people. Strictly speaking the encouragement of the savings habit among the Japanese people was started soon after the outbreak of the China Affair. Since then the savings has been steadily increasing in amount as can be seen from the figures given below:

1938	¥8,000,000,000
1939	10,000,000,000
1940	12,000,000,000
1941	17,000,000,000
1942	23,000,000,000

"While saving such enormous sums, the Japanese nation has been simultaneously extending necessary loans to China and Thailand in order to facilitate their cooperation with Japan. The records realized so far amply prove that the Japanese nation is in a position to save a much greater amount without difficulty.

Food Situation Favorable

"Concerning the self-supply of foodstuffs during the wartime, Japan is in a much better position than any other belligerent nation. But, in view of the extraordinary situation in which the country stands at present, the Japanese people are determined to observe a strict economy of all provisions.

"The development of mineral resources in the country, and the speeding up of shipbuilding are being conducted most satisfactorily by the joint efforts of the Government authorities and the control corporations concerned.

"Thus, Japan has now completed its preparations for the prosecution of the great war it is fighting, and both the Government and the people are determined to fight it out until the malicious designs of the United States and Britain after universal supremacy are completely shattered."

From Brine to Salt . . . II

The importance of salt for chemical industry is well-known. Table salt of fine grain and high quality will remain dry and powdery when exposed to the atmosphere, owing to addition of just sufficient sodium carbonate or trisodium phosphate to combine with such hygroscopic impurities as calcium and magnesium chlorides. Common salt used for various manufacturing purposes is a litter coaser in grain than table salt. Still coaser salts are used for fish curing, refrigeration, dairying, pickling, manufacturing of sodium carbonate (washing soda), caustic soda, hydrochloric acid, chlorine, bleaching powder and many heavy and fine chemicals and glass, soap and glazed and enamelled wares. As a flux salt enters into metallurgical processes and has been used in the manufacture of cement to aid in the recovery of potash as a by-product. In view of the huge demand all these uses indicate, its production of late has been pushed with a gusto. Picture shows a canal being turned into a sort of conveyor of salt just collected from the "farms."

WEIGHTS, MEASURES FEES AT PORTS FIXED

Communications Minister Approves New Tariff—Takes Effect Retroactive Nov. 1

With the object of reforming the weighing and measuring business at various ports in the country and of rationalizing the tariff therefore, Communications Minister Ken Terashima approved on December 19 the tariff of weighing and measuring fees recently worked out and submitted to the Communications Ministry by the Seaborne Cargo Weighing and Measuring Association of Nippon, and it is understood that the new tariff will take effect retroactive November 1 of this year, reports the Nippon Sangyo.

Judging from the different tariffs hitherto charged at various ports in the country, the Association fixed common rates for the entire country, based on the results of investigations conducted by the Association during the past one year as to tonnages of cargoes handled at each port with reference to the freight tariffs of general steamship companies.

The newly fixed weighing and measuring tariff follows:

General Cargo (fees chargeable at ¥0.17 per ton)—Lumber, timber, machinery, wool, pulp, paper packed by wood, rolled and other kinds of paper, glass, raw cotton, bricks, tiles, Manila ropes, charcoal, soda ash, cement, liquid substances in general, leaf tobacco, black sugar, metal articles in general, sulphate of ammonia, nitre, fish oil and other oils, pitch.

Special Cargo (fees chargeable at ¥0.07 per ton)—Coal, rock phosphate, salt.

Bulky Cargo (chargeable at ¥0.12 per ton)—Wheat, Taiwan sugar, Taiwan rice, Chosen rice, Japan rice, foreign rice, wheat powder rice bran, wheat bran, fertilizers, cereals in general, automobiles, timber produced in the South Seas Islands.

Cargo Requiring Additional Fees (A—chargeable at ¥0.20 per ton)—Graphite, carbon black, magnesium, petroleum products, hydrochloric acid, nitric acid, alcohol, poisonous drugs. (B—chargeable at ¥0.24 per ton)— gasoline and other articles of explosive nature.

The paper observes, however, that the tariff is subject to revision in a year or so in accordance with the development of this business at various ports in the country.

In addition to its main office in Tokyo, the Association has its branch offices in Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe, Moji, Shimonoseki and other ports so as to facilitate its business all over the country.

To Use Gas Motors

VICHY.—Rivercraft plying on the inland waterways in France are to have gas-producer motors instead of oil-driven Diesel engines in order to save foreign exchange. Experiments carried out with ten such ships have proven successful and no fewer than 60 vessels will be refitted in the coming weeks while a total of 200 boats are to be converted within the next four months.

Closing Quotations Of Key Stocks And Bonds

Yesterday's final prices of key stocks and bonds on the Tokyo Stock Exchange follow, in yen:

		Comp. with prev. day
Tokyo Exchange, new (short-term)	87.80	+ 0.60
N.Y.K., new (short-term)	77.40	+ 1.40
Kanebo Spinning, new (short-term)	74.00	+ 0.60
Gov't Bond, Kogo 5%	108.15	Same

FLOOR TURNS QUIET AS LONG-TERMS OFF

Prime Issues Go Firm in Short-Term Section, N.Y.K., New, Up ¥1.40

The Tokyo Stock Exchange was calm and quiet yesterday in the absence of the long-term session due to the preparations for the year-end deliveries of October-bidden holdings.

In the short-term section, however, the prime issues noticeably stiffened, and N. Y. K. stepped up ¥0.80, its new ¥1.40, and Osaka Exchange, new ¥1.10.

A similar trend was found in the spot market, and fractional gains were scored by miscellaneous industrials.

Ysetetday's quotations of the listed issues in the short term section were as follows:

Short-Term Section

	Open.	High	Low	Clos.
Tokyo Exch. new	86.8	7.8	6.5	87.8
N. Y. K., new	75.9	7.4	5.8	77.4
M'bishi Heavy Ind.	94.3	4.5	3.9	94.4
Kanebo Spin. new	73.1	4.0	3.0	74.0
Teikoku Rayon. new	66.6	7.4	6.6	67.1
Hitachi Iron Works.	87.9	8.0	7.6	87.7
Osaka Exch. new	44.5	5.7	4.3	45.1
Japan Steel Tube	67.7	8.0	7.7	67.7
Japan Oil	75.2	5.2	5.1	75.1
S. M. R.	73.0	3.0	2.9	73.0
N. Y. K., old	80.9	1.4	0.8	91.0
Hokkaido Coal	74.3	4.4	4.3	74.4
Kanebo Spin. old	126.8	7.2	6.7	127.0
Toyo Rayon. new	54.4	4.4	4.1	54.1
Kokura Iron Works.	53.0	3.0	2.9	53.0
Japan Beer. new	44.9	4.9	4.6	44.7
Japan Sugar. new	65.6	5.6	5.0	65.3
Ensuiko Sugar	62.0	2.0	1.3	61.3
Japan Mining	62.1	2.1	1.6	61.8
Manchou Ind	58.2	8.2	8.1	58.1

U.S. EXPORTS UNDERGO DISASTROUS DECREASE

LISBON.—The disastrous decline of United States exports to South America is revealed in a letter addressed by the Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, Rear-Admiral Emory S. Land, to Senator James Mead of New York, according to a Washington dispatch.

The letter states that United States exports to Argentina in October (exclusive of fuels) amounted to only 15,381 tons, compared with the monthly average of 6,000,000 tons in 1939.

Exports to Brazil in October amounted to 36,500 tons and to Uruguay only 6,207 tons as compared with 7,700,000 and 415,000 tons respectively which were the monthly averages in 1939.

Corresponding figures for Chile were 4,599 tons compared with 2,200,000 tons, and for Peru 1,620 tons compared with 1,600,000 tons.

SPEEDIER BUILDING OF SOUTH TO BEGIN

Chief Local Military Administrators of Java Meet to Accelerate Construction

The first meeting of the chief military administrators of various states of Java since the establishment of the Japanese Military Administration in the East Indies was held at Djakarta on December 20 and 21, marking the commencement of greater efforts by the Japanese authorities, in close collaboration with the native people, for speeding up the economic construction of the southern regions, says the Asahi correspondent at Djakarta.

The conference opened in the presence of the Supreme Commander of the Japanese Land Forces on the island, the superintendent of military administration, advisers to the military administration and others. Following instructions by the army commander and the superintendent of military administration, detailed reports were given by the chief military administrators of all states concerning the present conditions in the districts under their jurisdictions. This is expected to produce a far-reaching effect in promoting the military administrations throughout the island.

The gist of the instructions given by the Supreme Commander at the opening session of the conference follows:

Stress on Moral Trainings

1. In view of the fact that the present war is assuming the nature of a prolonged strife, the chiefs of local military administration on the island must put in their best efforts to conduct the moral training of the native people along the right path and secure their heartfelt cooperation in prosecuting the great war Japan is now fighting.

2. The chiefs of local military administration, keeping a vigilant watch over the trend of popular sentiment, must take every possible measure to frustrate all malicious attempts by the enemy nations to retard the construction of Java.

3. The chiefs of local military administration, in leading the people under their control, must set good examples themselves, must lead the people in person, and thereby facilitate the construction of new Java.

The superintendent of military administration, following the Supreme Commander, spoke as follows:

"All the officials and people on the islands, in view of the great difficulties which Japan must overcome, must make greater efforts to execute their respective duties perfectly.

"The chiefs of local military administration must win over the hearts of the native people under their jurisdictions and with the heartfelt cooperation of the people, must devote their efforts to the construction of Java through perfect prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia.

"In view of the important position Java occupies in the economic construction of Greater East Asia, the chiefs of local military administration must do their very best for the expansion of the productive power of the districts under their jurisdictions, and thereby facilitate the economic construction of new Java.

CELLULOID INDUSTRY WILL BE RENOVATED

Commerce Ministry Decides on Several Measures—Vast Improvement Will Be Made

Preparations for the augmentation of the supply of celluloid articles in Japan will be finished by March next, thanks to the efforts now being exercised by the Commerce and Industry Ministry in collaboration with manufacturers of celluloid articles in Tokyo, Osaka and other industrial centers of Japan, says the Nippon Sangyo.

The Commerce and Industry Ministry, following a careful study of the plan submitted by the Celluloid Industry Renovation Committee for the improvement of Japan's celluloid industry, has formally decided on the following measures, as notified under date of December 19, by the Commerce and Industry Ministry to the Federation of Celluloid Articles Manufacturers.

1. Fundamental policy for improvement of the celluloid industry in Japan Proper:

Efforts will be exercised to cultivate the strongpoints of the celluloid article manufacturers and thereby enable them to cooperate with the authorities for the improvement of the industry.

In this connection, the authorities will extend the required guidance and assistance to all celluloid manufacturers in consideration of the present system of operation in various places.

Selection of Factories

2. Measures to be enforced for selection of good factories:

(1) All manufactories fully equipped for the entire process of manufacture, with a floor area larger than 30 tsubo on March 17, 1942, in consideration of their technical merits in the past, shall be retained and developed into the nucleus for the industry after its renovation.

(2) All manufactories with a floor area larger than 15 tsubo on March 17, 1942, and that have satisfactory records in the past, shall be enlarged into nuclear factories under the protection of the authorities, or converted into nuclear factories at once through amalgamation with other factories.

(3) The celluloid factories in the service of the army or navy, irrespective of the qualifications mentioned in (1) and (2), may be retained in accordance with the opinions of the military authorities concerned.

3. Measures to be followed for the amalgamation of smaller factories:

(1) Some of the smaller factories, in consideration of their technical merits, may be merged into the nuclear factories after the renovation of the industry.

Painting Factories

(2) Manufactories equipped only for painting or polishing the celluloid articles, in consideration of the local conditions, or of the special conditions under which they are conducting their business, may be either merged into the nuclear factories or retained to do jobs for the nuclear factories in their vicinity.

(3) The manufactories retained after the renovation of the industry shall be registered either as individual enterprises, companies, or corporations.

4. The renovation of the industry shall be conducted under the direct guidance of the local governments concerned, which in view of the circumstances under which the manufacturers are conducting their business, will give every practical guidance and all needed assistance.

The renovation and improvement of the celluloid industry in Japan Proper shall be finished by the end of 1943.

Debenture Announced

The Industrial Bank of Japan Wednesday announced the terms and conditions of the 30th debenture of the North China Development Company, aggregating ¥50,000,000, of which, ¥5,000,000 will be sold on the market, it was learned. The proposed debenture is redeemable within 12 years, carrying an annual interest rate of 4.2 per cent, and a ¥100 par value debenture will be sold on the market at ¥99.50.

Shorter Shirts for U.S.

LISBON.—Americans in future are to wear shorter shirts to save material, according to a Washington report. The U.S. War Production Office decreed that shirts made after December 15 must be shortened by at least 3 inches.

INDUSTRIALIZATION OF THAILAND

Our Ally Turning From Agricultural Economy to Industrial Economy Since Abandoning Its Policy of Neutrality on Outbreak

"From agriculture to light industry." Under this slogan Thailand has been making a vigorous drive for the reorganization of its national economy since it abandoned its neutrality on the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia and made its redeparture as one of the important defense links in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. The task imposed on Thailand at this time of world upheaval is by no means an easy one, beset as it is with financial and industrial pitfalls.

A dispatch from the Bangkok branch of the Nippon Sangyo Keizai looks back on the course which Thailand has taken during the past year as showing the steady progress being made in the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere in which Thailand may be regarded as the touchstone to test the appropriateness of the various plans taken toward that end along with the rehabilitation work in the Japanese-occupied areas.

The outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, of course, had an immediate and far-reaching effect on the financial world of Thailand. Deposit withdrawals showed a sudden increase, which necessitated the issue of paper currency to an amount far in excess of the average monthly rate of increase during the year previous. At the end of 1939 the amount of currency issue was 192,000,000 bahts and at the end of 1940, 234,000,000 bahts, registering an increase by 3,500,000 bahts per month on an average, while during the one month from the end of November to the end of December, 1941, the increase reached 22,000,000 bahts.

Drafts Controlled

To cope with this situation the Government issued an order to the various banks to restrict the use of drafts and checks and the drawing on deposits beyond a certain amount. The amount drawable from the postal savings account was also limited to less than 10 bahts per day. However, since then the financial system resumed its normal course and at the end of March, 1942, the amount of issue was 316,000,000, showing an increase of 6,300,000 bahts per month on an average.

On February 1, soon after its declaration of war on the United States and Britain, the Thailand Government enacted a foreign exchange control law and adopted a licensing system for bringing baht currency out of the country. However, due to the suspension of foreign trade and decrease in stocks, prices continued to go up, while the bahts gradually depreciated both at home and abroad on account of the scarcity of commodities, which proved a great obstacle in the way of foreign trade. By virtue of the Japan-Thailand Economic Agreement, devaluation of baht currency by three-hundredths was effected, making the value of the currency on a par with the yen, with a view to stabilization of the baht and prevention of confusion on the money market.

Yen Turned Into Reserve

On June 15, a Finance Ministry ordinance was promulgated including the yen in the gold reserve, and on the 18th of the same month, on the strength of the Japan-Thailand Loan Agreement, it was decided to transfer yen exchange bills amounting to ¥200,000,000 to the issue reserve account in place of the £200,000,000 reserve which had been frozen. Thus the Japan-Thailand trade relationship was established on a basis of the yen account.

On May 5 the Government promulgated the Central Bank Law, under which all the businesses heretofore handled by the National Treasury Bureau of the Finance Department are to be transferred to the banks whose opening ceremony was held on December 10. The Bank, capitalized at 20,000,000 bahts, is to be invested with all functions of a central bank.

With a view to withdrawing surplus currency, the Government are encouraging the organization of savings associations in various places of the country as well as issuing premium-bearing savings debentures and lottery-tickets twice a month, amounting each time to 400,000 bahts. In June of this year, the Thailand Life Insurance Company was established under government management, also for the same purpose.

Credit Societies Increased

As regards financing agriculture and commerce, cooperative credit societies have been increased in number throughout the country. At present, the country has 2,851 of these credit associations with assets aggregating 2,130,000 bahts.

It is, of course, due to the strenuous efforts put forth by the Government that the money market of Thailand has thus far remained comparatively calm in spite of the existing world situation, but the following may be cited as the principal factors for helping the Government's efforts to bear satisfactory results:—

(1) Thailand being surrounded by battlefields there is no way for flight of capital out of the country.

(2) Because the whole country, with the exception of Bangkok which carries on commercial and industrial economy, depends on agricultural economy, it is not so sensitive to economic changes caused by the war.

(3) Business transactions have considerably decreased in volume due to the outbreak of the war.

Joy of Numismatics Known to Select Few

(Continued From Page 4)

era. For this reason the reformed currency was called "Bunji-kin," or Bun character-gold, popularly called "Bun-kin," or Bun-gold for short.

The style of women's hair dressing which was popular in the Genroku era went out of fashion by this time and a new style known as shimada came into vogue. It was called ne-no-takai shimada, or shimada of high base. The Japanese expression ne-no-takai may mean either high price or high base.

As the Bun-kin gold coin caused a rise in commodity prices, people associated the high prices with the shimada and called the new hair style of dressing Shimada of Bun-kin. Young women still follow this fashion of hair dressing on felicitous occasions, such as New Year's or wedding ceremonies.

Old coins called "ye-sen" bearing pictures or designs were said to have been first coined during the feudal regime of Shogun Yoshimasa of the Ashikaga Shogunate (1436-1490).

These coins, however, were not regular currency, being cast more for amusement than for any other purpose. They are artistic and fascinating with local color. The pictures reflect the religious belief of the time. Some of the coins bear extraordinary pictures relating to literature and theatrical performances of the age. Others have religious or superstitious pictures, while others have bird and flower designs for good luck such as "Nembutsu sen" and "Komabiki sen."

Coins of this kind now sell for from 50 sen to 5 yen each. There are several hundred varieties in "ye-sen," and in collecting them, one can observe various aspects of the national spirit and traits. They are valuable materials for the study of Japan and the Japanese people.

It is indeed interesting to study through old Japanese coins the social and economic life of the race. There are many interesting episodes and stories associated with the collection of old coins, one of which is of particular interest.

There was a man in Ise Province named Futaba-sai, who was an ardent lover of old coins. He had an old Chinese coin, "Ken-en Gampo" of the Southern Sung Dynasty. He treasured it as the rarest coin in the world.

One day, the feudal lord of his clan heard about the coin and desired to see it. Futaba, however, did not want to comply with the request, fearing that the coin might be seized. One day he fled from his home with the precious possession, for he could not endure the thought of losing it. He travelled secretly from town to town and did not return to his home for three years.

His love for the coin was overpowering. But what is more remarkable is the fact that this rarity is still in Japan and is cherished by a Japanese collector. Since no other coin like it has ever been found in either Japan or China, it is unquestionably the only one of its kind in the world.

(Keibun Tanaka, JTA & CJ)

Bill Clearings

December 24

(In ¥1,000)

	Tokyo	Osaka
Bills Cleared	293,674	138,752
Balance	54,540	26,057

THREE-DAY RAILWAY MEET TO BE HELD IN JANUARY

Representatives of Japan, China, Manchoukuo to Thrash Out Technical Questions

With a view to enriching the supply of rolling stock for use in Japan, Manchoukuo and China, the representatives of the Imperial Japanese Railways, the South Manchuria Railway Company, the Taiwan Railway Company, the Government-General of Chosen, the North China railways, and the Central China railways, and various rolling stock manufacturing companies, including the Hitachi Works, the Sumitomo Works, and the Japan Iron Works, have decided to hold a three days' conference at the Railways Ministry in Tokyo beginning January 25, says the Nippon Sangyo.

The engineers representing the different parties mentioned above are expected to conduct a careful study of all questions concerning:

1. Rolling-stock materials.
2. Designs for rolling stocks.
3. Technical terms for rolling stocks.

Up to the present, Japan, Manchoukuo, and China have had their own materials, designs, and technical terms, considerably hindering all parties in their work of construction.

In the forthcoming technical conference, all the railway interests will aim at the elimination of causes of delay in work through the standardization of rolling stock materials, designs and technical terms.

At their meetings of January 25 and 26, the three questions will be studied from all angles on the basis of the results of their preliminary studies.

The concluding session will be held on January 28, when the final decisions on all questions will be taken.

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Thailand: Bangkok.
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TOKYO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1942

The 81st Session of the Diet Convened

The 81st session of the Imperial Diet was convened yesterday and after the formal procedure had been gone through in the morning, both Houses were duly organized the same day, with the opening ceremony to be held tomorrow. This is the second ordinary session of the Diet called since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, though a few extraordinary sessions were convened in the interval.

It is hardly necessary to say that the responsibility devolving on the Imperial Diet is always very weighty, but it may be said without fear of exaggeration that its responsibility has never been weightier than at the present time when the country is engaged in a life-and-death struggle, with her grand ideal at stake, the realization of which is essential to the security and welfare not only of the East Asiatic peoples but of all the peoples of the world. It is, then, incumbent on all members of both Houses to rise to the occasion excellently and discharge their important duties most creditably during the present session. We have, indeed, no doubt that they will prove themselves worthy of the patriotic and loyal nation whom they represent.

The Japanese people have but one object, and that is to win the war. To the attainment of this sole aim the entire resources of the country have been and will be devoted. The fifty-six draft bills which the Government has in readiness for introduction in the present Diet session have been drawn up with this end in view. They are all designed to increase the country's fighting strength and to safeguard the livelihood of the nation—factors essential to the establishment of a solid wartime structure.

During the past year of the present gigantic war against America and Britain, Japan has achieved unprecedentedly brilliant victories on all fronts, and it is confidently expected that through the utilization of all kinds of natural resources in which the vast territories under her occupation are rich, she can firmly establish a wartime economic structure on such a firm basis that it will carry her triumphantly through the war, no matter how long it may last.

As General Nobuyuki Abe, President of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, declared in the course of his speech at the general meeting of the Lower House members of the Association on December 23, the duty of the legislators is to give the Government the encouragement necessary for the vigorous execution of the war and to help the Government to carry out the measures decided upon. The present session of the Diet affords an excellent opportunity to demonstrate to the world the right spirit and the firm determination of the entire nation in the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia.

'Peace on Earth'

Today finds the world commemorating another Christmas amidst the throes of war. It is a bitter commentary indeed on the the professed Christianity of the so-called Christian nations of the world that booming guns and crashing bombs should herald the natal anniversary of the Prince of Peace. It is a sad but illuminating commentary on the truthfulness and sincerity of our enemy countries, which profess to be Christian, that they are spreading the gospel of hatred and greed and falsehood on this day which should be a day dedicated to the ideal of "peace on earth, good will to men."

Why is it that with all their obvious good intentions, the Christians of those countries which profess to be predominantly Christian have failed so utterly to see to it that their society and their governments practice what they preach? Why is it that throughout the history of the last several centuries, it is the countries which make the most ostentatious show of pretending to be Christian, like the United States and Britain, that have waged the most frequent and the bloodiest wars, have carved out the greatest empires of plunder and exploitation, have chained the most millions of helpless native peoples to subjection, and have entertained the most boundless ambitions of self-interest?

This Christmas finds the United States and Britain in another of their travesties of their professedly sacred ideals. Christmas this year finds these countries engaged in the latest and most flagrant contradiction of their stated aims which they try to sanctify in the name of their distorted Christianity.

It is strange that there are not more good people in America and Britain and in the others of our enemy countries who realize what a strange and tragic spectacle their governments are providing on this day. Certainly there are evidences galore of the perfidy of their governments in this present struggle. The irony of the situation should be keenly apparent to them who are feeling so directly the results of their governments' hypocrisy.

Are there not millions of fathers, sons, husbands, and brothers who are not at home this Christmas to join with their families in the observance of this most significant day in the Christian year? Does it not occur to these people, both at the front and at home, to ask why it is that Christmas is for them this year a grim mockery of what it was meant to be?

If they should ask this question, the horror and crime of their governments' actions should be clear enough. They will realize that this worldwide strife has been forced upon the world by the United States and Britain, the two countries which have been most loud in their professed adherence to Christian principles, but whose irresponsible leaders, swayed by wordly ambition and greed, have utterly failed to live up to their professed ideals in practice, betraying the trust of their own people. They will realize that their leaders, while preaching Christian idealism, have turned their backs to the practice of the principles of justice, equality, and fairness, and have sought only to satisfy their desire for selfish profit and selfish profit.

It is only necessary to compare the professed war aims of these Anglo-American leaders with the conditions that actually continue to prevail in the regions which still remain under their influence to see how complete a discrepancy there is between the two. It is necessary only to notice the rampant economic inequalities, the bitter racial prejudices, the stubborn political conservatisms, the blind pride and arrogance which prevail in the countries under Anglo-American rule to see how greatly the Anglo-American leaders have in practice violated the principles of the Christianity which they profess to uphold.

In contrast, Japan and her allies of the Axis are endeavoring through this war to bring this Anglo-American hypocrisy to an end so that there may be created a world in which the high human principles of brotherhood and mutual consideration will actually govern the conduct of men and nations. Japan and the Axis are trying to establish a New World Order which will assure justice and fairness to all regardless of race, creed, or religion.

So as the world commemorates today this tragic travesty of a Chiristmas, it should have no difficulty in perceiving which side it is that has brought about this tragedy and which side it is whose aims reach toward the real Christmas spirit of "peace on earth, good will to men."

A Year Ago Today

Dec. 25, 1941

From the Files of Japan Times Advertiser

The Imperial Headquarters at 5:10 p.m. yesterday announced the bombing of Rangoon by Japanese planes. The Japanese planes fought with about 15 enemy planes of the Spitfire type and shot down all of them.

* * *

The Imperial Navy Air Force launched attacks on the remaining air force of the enemy in the Philippines for two days, December 20 and 21. The results were that the Japanese planes shot down three large enemy planes and destroyed four large and 14 small enemy machines on the ground, it was announced by the Imperial Headquarters at 4 p.m. yesterday.

* * *

Japanese Naval planes continued fierce attacks on Tunglung Island, east of Hongkong, all day yesterday. The Japanese Naval Air Force effected furious bombing and machine-gunning upon the remaining enemy pill-boxes and other military establishments, inflicting heavy damage.

* * *

General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the United States and Commonwealth forces in the Philippines, has admitted that Imperial Japanese Forces have effected another landing at a point approximately 320 miles north of Manila and that the United States forces have retreated about four miles from this point, according to a Domei dispatch.

* * *

The plenary session of the Privy Council yesterday approved the organization of a War Prisoners Information Bureau.

* * *

To defend Singapore to the last man, the military conference convened by the Australian Government has decided to speed up preparation for the immediate dispatch of a large squadron of planes to Singapore, according to a Domei report from Stockholm.

ARGENTINA, CHILE MAINTAIN STAND WORTHY OF ADMIRATION

Relations of South American Nations Since Outbreak Of War of Greater East Asia Reviewed

By RYOJI NODA
(From the Gaiko Jiho)

Part I

Our relations with the Latin American countries since the inception of intercourse have been of the most favorable nature, amiable and cordial, with not a single incident which might have constituted a cause for the rupture of diplomatic relations. Bearing no evil designs on this continent of South America, our economic and cultural relations with the various South American countries have been pushed to a stage of admirable attainment.

Our first associations with the South American countries came well after the European nations and the United States had firmly established themselves in that continent. Due to well-guided efforts and the cooperation of the Government and its people, however, the Japanese were able to win for themselves a place in the hearts of the South American people and not before long, the United States and other nations began to look upon Japan as a serious competitor for South American friendship.

Of the countries who cultivated their relationship with South America, the United States seemed committed to a policy of excluding other non-western hemispheric nations from enjoying the fruits of their friendship. She tried to erect a fence around her southern neighbor to keep away outsiders. The Monroe Doctrine notice was pasted all over the fence. To discourage the Germans and the Italian Fascists as well as the Japanese from entering South America, overt, war-inviting acts were committed by the United States. To prepare for possible war which might result from the execution of her individualistic policy, the United States sought to establish a common front among the South American nations which would be directed against the Axis States. In 1936 a Pan-American Peace Conference was held at Buenos Aires and three years later, the Eighth Pan-American Conference was opened at Lima, Peru.

Wholesale Involvement Policy

Since the outbreak of the European War, the United States whose policy toward Germany was little short of war was determined that when the war broke out, the South American countries will be dragged into the vortex of the swirling maelstrom. To this end, she presented at the Second Pan-American Conference of Foreign Ministers at Havana a proposal, Article 15, which would bind South America to fight on the side of the Axis Powers.

This proposal provided for mutual aid and common defense among the countries of the western hemisphere. The article provided that should the inviolability and safety of the territory, sovereignty or political independence of any one of the countries of the Americas be infringed upon, by a non-American nation all the other countries signatory to this declaration shall ipso fasto be bound to consider that non-American nation an aggressor.

However, as the South American countries are by nature peace-loving nations who had at the First Pan-American Conference signed the Joint Neutrality Pact, these nations had no reason to fear an invasion by a non-American nation. Rather it was the United States who was deeply concerned about the possibility of coming to grips with a non-American country and it was from this feat that this declaration was introduced for adoption at the Second Pan-American Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Demands Declaration of War

With the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the United States waved this declaration before the eyes of the South American nations, shouting that she had been attacked by Japan. Nine states in Central America and in the Caribbean Sea were the first to be dragged into the war under the provisions of this declaration, Article 15. They were Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Cuba, Dominica and Haiti. These countries declared war against Japan on either December 8 or December 9 and on December 12 declared war against Germany and Italy. Their hasty action in entering the war without first reaching an agreement at a conference of foreign ministers which was to have been called in accordance with the stipulations of this declaration offers a humorous and yet, pathetic picture of the position of small, weak countries who must assume a cringing attitude.

The Third Pan-American Conference of Foreign Ministers convened on January 15, 1942. Between December 8, 1941 and this date, Mexico, and Colombia had severed their diplomatic relations with Japan while Venezuela had cut off her relations on December 31, leaving only eight countries in South America which still maintained a circumspect, prudent position, not willing to commit themselves until after the conference.

The designs of the officials in Washington at the time the convention was called was to have all the delegates agree to the proposals for the declaration of war against the Axis Powers and thereby establish a firm, united front in the western hemisphere. However, of the eight countries which still remained neutral, the ABC Powers, Argentina, Brazil and Chile stiffly opposed not only the war declaration proposal but also the measure for the rupture of diplomatic relations with the Axis. It was even rumored then that one or two more nations besides Peru might also stick with the ABC Powers.

Never Introduced

Although the proposal for the joint declaration of war against the Axis was contemplated by the United States, it was never introduced as it was obvious that there was no possibility of its ever being adopted. Other measures affecting Japan were Ecuador's proposal denouncing Japan, the joint proposals of Mexico, Colombia and Venezuela for the severance of diplomatic relations with Japan, Germany and Italy, and Mexico's proposal for the rupture of economic relations with the Axis Powers.

The United States met her biggest rebuff when the proposal for the severance of diplomatic relations with the Axis was introduced. Argentina, Chile and Peru adamantly refused to recognize such a measure. Later, however, Peru reversed her attitude when she was persuaded to give her support to he proposal in return for the settlement of the Peru-Ecuador border dispute.

Due to the unyielding opposition of Argentina, the proposal was amended twice. Only after the phrase "it is advised that . . ." was adopted did Argentina and Chile finally condescend to the measure. Proposal number five dealing with the severance of commercial and financial relations with the Axis Powers was also only adopted when the wording was modified, giving the signatories the freedom of discretion. Argentina signed her signature to the proposal after making a reservation. The Chilean Foreign Minister made a sweeping reservation. He said that "the articles will be agreed to if they do not conflict with the provisions of the Chilean Constitution. If the articles are applicable to Chile, then they must be approved by the National Congress and must be duly ratified before the articles can have legal effect."

41 Declarations Proposed

At the Third Pan-American Conference of Foreign Ministers, 41 declarations, proposals and recommendations were passed and finally incorporated into one protocol. While the conference was in session, Peru on January 24 severed her diplomatic relations with the Axis Powers and this was followed by Uruguay on January 25, by Brazil and Bolivia on January 28, by Ecuador on January 29 and Paraguay on December 30. However, Argentina and Chile still maintained their courageous attitude.

It is understandable why the Brazilian Government had to maintain a conciliatory and mediatorial attitude during the conference but her decision to sever her relations with the Axis Powers on the day of the termination of the convention is certainly no credit to this nation which, among the ABC Powers of South America, is the largest country from the point of size.

As there are many Axis nationals in Brazil, Brazil's relations in the past with Germany and Italy have been very close. It cannot be thought that the Brazilian Government could have been oblivious of this situation. Her action, therefore, must have been instigated by her inability to resist the pressure from the United States, her inability to see through the American propaganda and her overestimation of American and British strength.

Brazil's Economic Weakness

Her greatest weakness was economic. America was her biggest purchaser of her national product, coffee, and in other respects, she was greatly dependent on the United States. Of course, it is true that Brazil has an equally close relationship with the European countries but the pressing problems of selling her coffee of which she had a surplus and the acquisition of vital materials for her industries such as petroleum, coal, machinery and chemical products did not give her anything but Hobson's choice. The United States was quick to take advantage of this glaring weakness and held out enticing offers to the Brazilian Government such as the American promise to purchase all surplus Brazilian products and to sell it the necessary fuel, machinery, heavy industrial products, munitions, etc., as well as to extend it ample financial credit. The Brazilian Government could see the sharp needle within the bait but economic insecurity and hunger completely blinded it to this danger.

SEVERSKY CONFESSES U.S. AIR FORCE WEAK

America Frantically Engaged in Making More Planes

By SHUNJIRO KINOSHITA
(From the Kaizo)

The rapid development of aviation has transformed the air force into a major striking power in modern war. In the first year of the War of Greater East Asia, the Japanese airmen quickly won the supremacy in the air and defeat after defeat have been meted out to the enemy nations. However, in a desperate attempt to launch a counter-offensive, they are making strenuous efforts to strengthen their air arms to challenge the Japanese air supremacy.

In the United States, the American people have been brought to realize the seriousness of the situation confronting them. Immediately following the outbreak of the war in the Pacific, Roosevelt announced a huge war production program in Congress. The figures of this program were so great that the Americans in bewilderment have described it as astronomical. Even before the attack on Pearl Harbor the American war leaders had fully comprehended the importance of air power. Today with the entire American automobile industry converted into aircraft factory, the monthly production may already have reached from 5,000 to 6,000 planes. With these planes coming off the assembly lines, the United States is strengthening her home defense and preparing for a counter-offensive against Japan. As the first step for this offensive America has established advance air bases in India and Australia.

U.S. Planes Weak

In the early stage of the war, airmen, known as the American Volunteer Group, were stationed in China for the defense of the Burma Road. When the Burma campaign was in progress, these men piloted the much publicized Tomohawk fighters. With the Japanese occupation of Burma the few remaining planes fled to Chungking. The American Volunteer Group was soon reinforced with a number of American B-25 bombers and P-40 and P-43 fighters. They were immediately challenged by superior Japanese airmen and their activity was reduced.

Further south in Australia, Britain appears to have handed the defense of this continent to the United States. This may have been imperative for Britain in order to safeguard the homeland and the Mediterranean against the superior Italo German air forces. But, to the United States, with the loss of the Philippines and other bases in the Southwest Pacific, Australia was most proper as a base.

In the United States, the people are constantly reminded of the importance of power. This can be pointed out in the book "Victory Through Air Force" by Major Seversky, a best seller in the United States. In this book, Major Seversky declares that the present American aircraft are inferior to those of other Powers and points out that to emerge victorious over the Axis Powers, a superior air arm is essential. To achieve victory, the old conception that battles are fought by the navy and army must be cast aside. He points out that, as long as Japan maintains a powerful air force, the American naval vessels will not be able to achieve anything in the West Pacific.

Feverishly Planning Production

The production of heavy bombers is being accelerated. The army is concentrating on the manufacture of the famous Flying Fortress B-17 and B-24, while experiments are carried out with other giant planes such as Boeing B-29 and Douglas B-19. Much attention is also given to the production of Martin Mars (PB-2M) flying boats. This plane, weighing 70 tons, has a flying range of 13,000 miles and transport capacity of 125 men. With the acute enemy shipping shortage, a mass production of these craft to relieve the situation created much discussion. The American shipbuilding king, Henry Kayser, stressed that it would be more practical for his shipyards to build these huge flying boats. He estimated that if nine of the largest American shipyards were converted into aircraft factories, a monthly output of 5,000 could be attained. Kayser's plan for a mass production of Martin flying boats may have been intended to relieve the grave shipping shortage.

The quality of Britain's first line aircraft is stated to be superior to those of the United States. Their latest bombers, the Lancaster, are said to surpass the American B-17 and B-24.

One handicap facing the British air force is its lack of trained airmen. This shortage can be testified by the recent air activity in Western Europe.

In the War of Greater East Asia, we have seen little of the front line British aircraft. This is probably due to the British policy of maintaining a powerful air force at home. British Spitfires hardly made any appearance and the bomber squadrons consisted mainly of Blenheims.

THE MIRRORS OF THE HEROIC AGE

The Night Battle of Kawagoe

By SANTARO
Of Japan Times Advertiser Staff

Part VIII

At long last Ujiyasu, partly recovering from his incapacitating malady, was reported to have taken the field—somewhere nearer home at a safe distance from the Uyesugi forces around Kawagoe. His reluctance to fight was all too evident. The first thing he did after he came out at the head of his none too powerful army was to send an envoy to Ashikaga Haru-uji, Commander-in-chief of the Allied forces, offering armistice in piteous words. "Kawagoe, beleaguered by your overwhelming forces, is doomed to fall anyhow; it is impossible for us to rescue the poor fellows shut up there. They must be starving to death. Have mercy on them and spare them this ignoble fate. If you should but spare their lives, we would be ready to surrender their castle at your Excellency's feet."

At this imploring message Haru-uji, evidently on the advice of the two Uyesugis, stiffened his neck, and returned the following insolent reply:

"No thanks. We will not receive Kawagoe as a kind gift from you; we will take it as our right by force of arms. Besides, we are not going to spare a single one of them. There must be a good many among them who have hailed from Idzu and Odawara, and their extermination will be some shock to your home province, and be assured that our next objective after Kawagoe will be your snug nest at Odawara. Go home and be prepared for the worst."

No Appeasement Possible

Undaunted by this arrogant rebuff, the indefatigable Ujiyasu made yet another gesture of humble conciliation by sending a message to Sugenoya Okinokami the daikan (chief minister of Uyesugi Norimasa), begging him to save the 3,000 men trapped at Kawagoe by persuading his master to stop this cruel war. If he succeeded in doing so, Ujiyasu promised to make a free gift of the castle to him, while he would sign peace with the Uyesugis at their dictation and return to Odawara in contrition.

The daikan reported the matter to Norimasa, but the latter pooh-poohed it as "too ridiculous." "Our object is not merely to get Kawagoe," he blustered, "it is the punishment and annihilation of the Hojos, the enemy of the world and the anethema of mankind."

There was nothing more to be done in the way of appeasement. Ujiyasu with a few thousand men advanced to a position south of the Iruma river, and there exchanged a few trial shots with the advance guards of the Uyesugi contravallation, and then speedily withdrew as if afraid of losing his precious men. Wishing to know what impression his first military action had given the enemy he sent spies among them, and they returned with a report that the Uyesugis who had expected a stiffer attack were agreeably disappointed and they counted Ujiyasu's fighting power as negligible. Ujiyasu soon launched a second attack, but as on the first occasion after a little skirmish beat a hasty retreat, and the spies reported that the Uyesugis treated all his long delayed offensives as a joke. Ujiyasu repeated his "laughable" attack twice or three times, all in keeping with the Odawara tradition already created, so that his spies assured him that the Uyesugis were quite convinced that Ujiyasu was no longer the same man that he had been before he had contracted Uyesugi-phorbia but that all they had to do was to maintain their siege a little longer to see the end of Tsunashige's 3,000 men by famine and starvation.

Three Instructions

Now Ujiyasu knew that time was mature for real action, and was resolved to make a general attack on the night of April 20, Tenmon 15th year (1546). On the eve of the battle Ujiyasu delivered a stirring speech to his soldiers, explaining the causes of his long delay in making this final showdown with the Uyesugis, and went on to say:—

"Have we not all of us heard it said by great warriors and strategists of old that victory in war is not always for the largest numbers of fighters, but for those united in action and in their will to conquer. Hence the famous maxim, 'neither despise the enemy who are small in number nor fear them if they are numerous.' As you know already, in all our experiences with the Uyesugis in the past—we have fought good many battles with them—we had always defeated them though we were invariably pitted against the odds of one against 10, because we were always united in heart and soul and in the will to conquer or die. Why should not this traditional rule of the past hold in this decisive battle we are going to wage tonight? You have all to act as one man, each doing his utmost according to his duty, neither fearing nor despising the enemy we are out to crush."

Then he caused each and all of his warriors—8,000 strong—to wear over their coats of mail a paper jacket, somewhat in the shape of the jinbaori which came into vogue in the days of Nobunaga and Hideyoshi—made of the tough-fibered stuff such as the famous Mino paper is made—the use of which was soon explained as he gave them the following three-point injunction to be strictly observed in the coming fight.

"1. Kill everyone of the enemy who is not robed in white.

"2. Behead your enemy but do not bother about their heads. Leave the corpses where you have slain them.

"3. The moment the trumpet sounds the retreat, leave off fighting and gather to your appointed place without loss of a moment. If you were in the act of beheading your antagonist stop it, if the retreat was heard, and come straight to your place and join your comrades."

New Fighting Tactics

Simple and commonplace as these triple instructions may seem, they will be found to be of grave significance embodying vital tactical principles, illustrating Ujiyasu's superb generalship, if you but closely examine them in the light of the mode of fighting then in vogue. The first injunction was made possible by the "paper jacket" which ensured visibility in the dark and prevented them from mistaking their enemy for their comrades, or vice versa, which was one of the commonest but most disastrous contingencies in pitched battles, especially when fought at night.

The second order was to ensure effective collective action. In the olden times the contest was often based on, even determined by, the individual prowess of warriors, so that each of them generally strove to earn victory for himself, to establish his own prestige and honor as a brave warrior, and therefore to "get as many heads" for himself as possible and the higher or the more famous the victims beheaded so much the better; so there was always a possibility of warriors sacrificing the general prestige of their Lord on the altar of their individual reputation. In the Hojo tactics individual honor was deliberately buried in preference for that of the entire army; all the soldiers being united in destroying the "non-white" enemy, irrespective of who they were or how many heads each warrior took, so long as the enemy as a whole were defeated.

The third order was to ensure mobility or maneuverability of troops, possibly also coordination with Tsunashige's 3,000 men who at due signals from the attacking forces were to make the last heroic dash from the Castle to sandwich the enemy. Because of the extensive Musashi field in which the battle was to be staged and because of the numerical inferiority of Ujiyasu's army, the most important consideration was concentration of major fighting power on points to be attacked, and prompt shifting of such concentrations whenever necessary; hence the importance of some effective device by which they might stop fighting en masse at a moment's notice and to direct attack on a different objective whenever it was deemed advisable.

(To Be Continued)

In the Periodicals

Contemporary Japan, Vol. XI, No. 12, December, 1942 (in English). Publishers, the Foreign Affairs Association of Japan, Tokyo. Price ¥1. Leading articles: One Year of the Pacific War by Yasui Takahashi, Limits of Soviet-"Democratic" Unity by Shozo Mori, The Off-season Election in America by Katsuji Inahara, War Situation in North Africa by Tomin Suzuki, Greater East Asia International Law by Masatoshi Matsushita, Readjustment of Smaller Concerns by Tanzan Ishibashi, Japanese-Thai Cultural Accord by Takeshi Yanagisawa, Characteristics of Japanese Women, and Our Southern Reconstruction Policy by Chihiro Tsutsui. The additional regular features include March of Events, Book Reviews, Japan's Periodicals, Chronicle of Current Events (October 21—November 20, 1942), and Documentary Material.

Gaiko Jiho, Vol. 104, No. 6 dated December 15, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Gaiko Jiho-sha, Tokyo. Price 60 sen. Leading articles: Review of This Year's Diplomacy, Problem of Japanese Residents in America, New Development of U.S. Attitude, Problem of Colonists in Manchoukuo, Stragetic Meaning of Northwestern Works in China, Great East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere and Raw Cotton Resources, Character and Termination of Long-Term War, Winter Counter-Offensive War and Resistance Power of Soviet Russia, America's Attitude Toward Japan and Hostile Intention, and Australia and Jews.

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